

Virtually silent on HIV/AIDS issues  
So what will the Bush administration's  
federal AIDS efforts look like?

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It's a Castro 'prunefest'  
No, not those kind of  
prunes. Think sheers.

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Davies does Wharton  
Director Terence Davies  
on 'The House of Mirth.'  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 2 • 11 January 2001

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## Gays join Ashcroft fight

by Bob Roehr

Leaders of more than two dozen national organizations crowded the stage of a Washington news conference Tuesday, January 9 to denounce the nomination of former Missouri Senator John Ashcroft to be attorney general of the United States. It was just a tip of the iceberg of opposition that has swelled past 200 national groups united under the umbrella of "Stop Ashcroft!"

"This campaign will educate the American public, the media, and most importantly the United States Senate about Senator Ashcroft's public record, the responsibility of the attorney general, and what is at stake should the Senate vote to confirm him," said Wade Henderson. He is executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the coalition that has pressed for all of the nation's civil rights legislation.

Henderson said that the decision was not taken lightly, but "Ashcroft's views on a range of issues ... are simply too extreme. His open hostility to the very laws and policies that protect the civil rights of all individuals in our society left the LCCR no choice but to actively oppose his nomination."

He called Ashcroft "a divider not a uniter," whose selection "strips bare any pretense about bringing this country together. Only a bipartisan majority of the Senate can right this wrong by rejecting the confirmation of John Ashcroft to be attorney general."

Nan Aron, executive director of the Alliance for Justice, charged that Ashcroft "has played politics with the judiciary for years" with "vicious and baseless attacks" on judicial nominees. "He is guilty of obstructing, not championing of justice," through lies to his colleagues about those nominees.

Kate Michelman, president of the National Abortion Rights Action League, lambasted Ashcroft's strong right to life position. He "has spent his entire public career trying to undo a woman's right to choose," she said. He has even "proposed legislation that would establish life as beginning at fertilization, which could outlaw some of the most commonly used forms of birth control." She called Ashcroft's past "a harbinger of what he will do in the future."

Ralph Neas, president of People for the American Way, said that in the decades he has spent as legal council

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Wade Henderson

## Tom Ammiano unanimously re-elected board president

by Cynthia Laird

Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who has been at the forefront of leading the fight for equal rights for gays and other minorities, was unanimously re-elected president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Monday, January 8.

All 11 supervisors were sworn in shortly before Ammiano was selected by his colleagues to be board president. The board now includes seven rookie members; all the board members were elected in district elections, which returned to San Francisco after a 20-year absence. Ammiano was an early champion of district elections, and Monday's inaugural meeting saw many new supervisors seated who ran on promises to be independent of Mayor Willie Brown. The progressive candidates in several districts easily beat challengers or incumbents supported by Brown.

The new board brings big change to San Francisco politics. For the past several years, including the last two which Ammiano spent as board president, he has often been on the losing end of votes as the supervisors mostly were Brown



Supervisors Mark Leno, left, and Tom Ammiano with his 1-month-old granddaughter, Justice Alcantra, at the swearing-in of the new Board of Supervisors Monday, January 8 in City Hall.

allies. All of that changed Monday.

For his part, the mayor offered brief congratulatory remarks after the supervisors were administered the oath of office by Su-

perior Court Judge Ronald Quidachay. Brown then left by a side entrance before the new supervisors made their speeches.

Supervisor Mark Leno, who was re-elected from District 8 (Castro-Noe Valley), and Ammiano are the only openly gay board members.

"Yesterday was really thrilling," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's clearly a new day at City Hall. It will be an honor to move forward and continue work with my new colleagues."

Leno downplayed concerns expressed by some that the new district supervisors might be so caught up with district concerns that they don't work on issues affecting the entire city.

"These are very talented, intelligent, experienced people who have been elected and we will be able to work things out for the best interest of the city," Leno said. "My hopes are high. It will be a learning process - how we work with one another to balance the needs of each other's districts and the city as a whole. That's ex-

citing."

Also on Monday, it was determined by chance which supervisors would serve two-year terms and which ones would serve four-year terms. Again, it turned out to be Ammiano's day, as supervisors from the odd-numbered districts will serve four-year terms; Ammiano represents District 9. The others serving four-year terms are: Jake McGoldrick, District 1; Aaron Peskin, District 3; Matt Gonzalez, District 5; and Gerardo Sandoval, District 11.

Leno and the supervisors in other even-numbered districts will face voters in two years. They include Gavin Newsom, District 2; Leland Yee, District 4; Chris Daly, District 6; and Sophie Maxwell, District 10.

During his remarks, Ammiano vowed to push for the creation of a public power district in San Francisco and to lobby state officials to work to end Ellis Act evictions, which have

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## East Bay officials decry needle exchange fire

by John Iversen

Alameda County supervisors and public health leaders came together Monday morning, January 8, to decry the suspected arson fire which caused \$250,000 in damage to the Oakland needle exchange, Casa Segura, late on December 31.

A press conference in front of the burned out building in Oakland's Fruitvale District attracted over 100 supporters of Casa Segura, the multi-purpose headquarters of the Oakland needle exchange.

Arnold Perkins, director of the Department of Public Health, expressed "absolute outrage" that such harm had been done to an organization which has a mission of healing. "Alameda County has declared an AIDS state of emergency in the Latino and African American communities. Casa Segura provides non-judgmental treatment for those stricken with the disease of substance abuse." Perkins said that his department supports Casa Segura and will assist them in finding a new location.

The fire was termed "intentional" by Oakland fire investigators. Casa Segura Director Chris Catchpool called the destruction "an act of arson, [or] terrorism, possibly a hate crime and a definite attack on all AIDS and drug treatment advocates." Catchpool again stated that the needle exchange will continue to serve 400 individuals weekly in the parking



Senobia Ellis, center director of Casa Segura, center director, stands inside her former office at the burned out needle exchange in Oakland during Monday's news conference.

lot of the gutted building under the light of portable electric generators.

Madelyn Stone, director of the East Bay Community Recovery Project, said her

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# Archdiocese fights back over Dignity-MCC demo

by Terry Beswick

That old nursery rhyme, "sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never harm me" doesn't really hold true, especially when it comes to modern day religious wars, San Francisco-style.

In a statement laden with enough vitriol and venom to make even a pagan say "ouch," the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco reiterated its longstanding disapproval of same-sex love last Friday, January 5, just before members of Dignity/San Francisco and Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco staged a demonstration outside of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese Chancery on Church Street.

"To demand that the Catholic Church change its beliefs—which are based on thousands of years of Judeo-Christian teaching—just to accommodate the sexual practices of homosexuals could be viewed as a form of intolerance and tyranny," stated Maurice Healy, spokesman for Archbishop William Levada.

Apparently, the archbishop was not pleased when Dignity/San Francisco and MCC-SF decided to march on his headquarters last Friday evening, publicly charging the Roman Catholic Church in a press release with "promoting violence against homosexuals, bisexuals, and the transgender population through their homophobic actions and teachings."

Last Friday's protest was organized to coincide with protests at the Vatican in Rome and in several other U.S. cities organized by the gay Catholic association Dignity/USA and interfaith gay rights group Soulforce.

Healy's retaliatory statement, issued in advance of the candlelight



LGBT protesters from Dignity/SF and MCC-SF held a demonstration outside the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco last Friday, January 5.

march, was the same "love the sinner, hate the sin" sort of stuff one has come to expect from the sexually repressed church. What was surprising, however, was the spokesman's below-the-belt tone.

"The archdiocese extends a hand of welcome to these people and sees each individual as worthy of God's love and our respect," Healy stated. "However, their message is a severe distortion of Catholic teaching and seeks to change Catholic doctrine because it inconveniently conflicts with their sexual practices."

"The church's teaching of the objective wrongness of homosexual acts draws an important distinction between homosexual acts and homosexual orientation," said Healy.

"We do not distort Catholic teaching on homosexuality; we reject it," responded Gilbert Gonzalez, co-chair of Dignity/San Francisco, in an open letter to Healy the next day. "Your claim that small groups or congregations like ours attempt to stifle the free expression

of religious beliefs is a curious twist on the real situation when the Archdiocese of San Francisco is a Goliath compared to us.

"You say that we seek to change Catholic doctrine because it inconveniently conflicts with our sexual practices. We advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Catholics because we believe it is not just about sexual practices, it is about our sexuality, it is about our complete personhood. Our cause is not a matter of convenience, it is about equal access to the life of the church, it is about justice. If your goal was to insult us by belittling our cause, you have succeeded."

Soulforce issued a call last week for "all Catholics, as well as Christians of other denominations, to withhold contributions of money, talents, and service to churches whose teachings and practices cause spiritual violence and promote legal discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people." ▼

## Car-sharing – coming soon to a lot near you

by Terry Beswick

If you're sick and tired of being sick and tired of the difficulties of getting around in San Francisco, but thought you were just going to have to learn to live with the hassles and expenses of parking and traffic, and with the limitations of public transportation, a solution to all your problems could be in the offing.

With support from the city and environmental organizations, including a \$750,000 grant from the federal Department of Transporta-

tion, a new group called City Car-Share has formed in San Francisco.

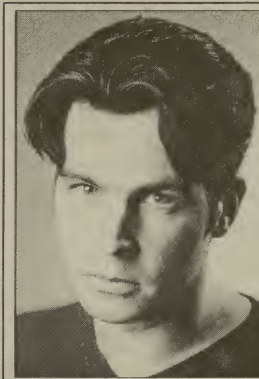
Inspired by dozens of car-sharing projects in other cities already successfully minimizing the impact of the automobile and helping people get around, City Car-Share is a neighborhood-based, time-share car rental that allows people to use vehicles when needed, and to pay into the program based on how much they actually drive. Rather than paying registration, maintenance, and repairs costs, as well as making monthly car, insurance, and parking garage payments, participants in the pro-

gram will have the chance to dramatically cut their driving expenses, and to use a car only when they really need to.

And for those who already rely on bicycles and public transportation, car-sharing offers a relatively cheap way to get some wheels for that hot date, or when the backpack just won't hold all those irresistible two-for-one deals at the local supermarket.

The nonprofit group, modeled on successful programs in Europe and Canada, expects to open in at least four locations in town with-

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## A New Look for a New You

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# 'Harm reduction' group screens pills outside club

by Ed Walsh

DanceSafe teamed up with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence last weekend outside Club Universe for the first time to provide ecstasy adulterant screening.

The controversial Oakland-based DanceSafe has offered its pill testing service at raves and dance clubs across the country. In the Bay Area, nearly one-third of the pills tested by DanceSafe are adulterated or fake, according to DanceSafe's Will Roscoe.

"This service has never been offered to patrons of queer clubs and circuit parties in San Francisco," said Roscoe, who was one of the volunteers who helped set up a table in an alley near Club Universe last Saturday night.

Roscoe told the *Bay Area Reporter* that DanceSafe has gotten a verbal agreement from the San Francisco District Attorney's office to not prosecute anyone involved in the pill testing. In addition to testing, DanceSafe offered patrons condoms, earplugs, and drug information literature. Roscoe said that because it was DanceSafe's first outreach to a Bay Area gay club, some people not familiar with the organization may have been reluctant to have their drugs tested. Roscoe said they tested just one ecstasy tablet and found it had not been adulterated. Roscoe said he hoped last week-

end's event and others like it would help spread the word of the dangers of tainted ecstasy. Coincidentally, at the same time DanceSafe was getting started outside Club Universe, three teenagers overdosed on what may have been adulterated ecstasy at a party in Hayward. All three were rushed to St. Rose Hospital where they were treated and released.

Roscoe said ecstasy is often adulterated with caffeine, sinus medication, or the drugs DXM (dextromethorphan) or PMA

"In the end, fewer pills are being taken because people aren't taking the adulterated pills," said Roscoe. "And we're talking about people who arrive at these events already with the drugs in their pockets."

Roscoe added that DanceSafe is saving lives by preventing people from being exposed to drugs far more dangerous than ecstasy.

"I think it really does promote safety and more consciousness about use," said Roscoe. "It really gets people to think more about

**"In the end, fewer pills are being taken because people aren't taking the adulterated pills. And we're talking about people who arrive at these events already with the drugs in their pockets."**

(para-methoxy-amphetamine, 4-MA). PMA, warns DanceSafe's Web site, is a powerful stimulant that is cheaper and easier to manufacture than ecstasy and far more dangerous. DXM is a cough suppressant that in high doses acts as a dissociative similar to ketamin, or Special K, according to DanceSafe.

Roscoe told the B.A.R. that he considers the mission of DanceSafe one of "harm reduction" and he disagrees with those who would suggest it encourages drug use.

what they're doing and being more aware of it. I think it makes them more careful and more cautious about what they're up to. The goal of harm reduction is not to eliminate the stuff but to reduce the harm from it."

DanceSafe plans to visit other gay clubs in the future. The organization is planning a volunteer training session this Sunday, January 14. For more information, contact Roscoe at (415) 563-7277 or e-mail him at partywise@klubz.com. ▼

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## Gay council member in San Jose!



Rick Gemmer

**S**uperior Court Judge LaDoris H. Cordell swears in Ken Yeager to the San Jose City Council at a community ceremony Friday, January 5 in San Jose. There was an overflow crowd - including Mayor Ron Gonzales, U.S. Representative Zoe Lofgren, and former Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird - on hand to welcome San Jose's first openly gay city council member.

## AEF launches BCEF

by Katie Szymanski

**C**hanges are in the air for San Francisco's AIDS Emergency Fund, for just as Ralph Petersen took office as the organization's new president on January 9, along with new directors Glennon Sutter, vice president; Werner Tillinger, treasurer; and Jeff Brass, secretary, AEF announced that the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund is about ready to be unveiled.

The Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, much like the organization's fund for AIDS relief, will provide financial assistance to women with breast cancer who have trouble making ends meet. Rent, utility bills, childcare, and groceries are all examples of some of the expenses that get difficult to manage when one is seriously ill, and these costs are not covered by most insurance plans. The fund will use the same distribution system as the AIDS fund, but will operate independently and will not dip into the money raised for

clients with HIV.

BCEF was two years in the making before becoming a reality, according to Petersen, who looks forward to helping the new fund blossom under his tenure. The development process included determining whether there was a need and if any existing funds could reliably deliver; researching what funding sources would be available; and setting up an advisory board of women who are experts in the field both medically and politically, a body that "we will be turning to regularly for support," according to Petersen.

BCEF is now the only reliable source of emergency aid available to qualified women in need, and community members have been quick to embrace the new endeavor, hosting creative fundraisers such as a leather walk and a women's body building expose. Another event, the first Breast Cancer Emergency Fund Awards Dinner, will be thrown by former AEF President Peter Fiske and "Mama" Sandy Reinhardt on Friday, January 26 at the Cliff House

Restaurant; for \$75 guests can enjoy a cocktail, an entrée, wine with dinner, and a complimentary van ride to the city's Mr. Powerhouse Leather event after the dinner.

"We welcome the community to fundraise through every possible venue," said Petersen. "We're particularly anxious for people to solicit their friends, co-workers, and employers, and we're happy to distribute information to anyone that wants it."

A press conference next week will announce the names of the women on the advisory board, and BCEF plans to start making grants up to \$600 per year beginning in March. To be eligible for aid, a woman must be undergoing treatment for breast cancer and make no more than \$1,960 per month.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of death for California women aged 40 to 55. Early detection and intervention can increase survival rates enormously, but many women with lower incomes cannot easily

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## Tranny bill gets another shot

by Katie Szymanski

**O**kay, one more time: Existing law allows for California-born transsexual residents to obtain a new birth certificate. It's time for people born here but living abroad and those new to the state to be able to take advantage of this right, no?

Well, no, according to Governor Gray Davis, who vetoed AB1851 by Assemblyman John Longville (D-Rialto) last session, citing on one hand his perception that the bill was unnecessary, and on the other hand expressing concern that the bill did not follow current registrar procedure, even though the bill was designed to change the procedure in question.

"I am flabbergasted," was the reaction last September from Eric Astacian of California Alliance for Pride and Equality. AB1851 was largely considered non-controversial, and passed with bipartisan support through both legislative chambers. Members of CAPE and

the Lambda Letters Project immediately vowed to open a dialogue with Davis, hoping to interpret his reasons for the veto so that the bill could eventually be given a second chance.

It has been four months since the veto, and Longville, as promised, is at it again. The bill will be re-introduced this session and assigned a new number, but will remain true to its spirit. The bill will simply call for a clarification of the process by which transsexuals other than those born and still living here can access their right to legal documentation.

"He wants to take another crack at it," Kristen Wingate, a spokeswoman for Longville, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The assemblyman is a strong advocate of LGBT rights and believes he can guide this bill into law."

Not much has been done to reword the bill yet, in part because many LGBT advocates felt that Davis's previous veto came not from opposing it but rather from an apparent lack of comprehension.

But Longville's office has pledged to work with the governor to ensure that this time around, the bill will be signed.

"We are planning on working more closely with his office so he understands what the bill does," said Wingate. "And if there are parts of it that remain a concern for him, we plan to come up with a resolution."

The announcement of the bill's re-introduction was cheered by Lambda Letters, which urged LGBT people to get on board by visiting [www.lambdaletters.org](http://www.lambdaletters.org), where the bill can be fought for and tracked throughout its progress.

Passage of the bill through both houses again should not be a problem, according to Wingate, who noted its relatively benign nature and the fact that it previously garnered much support.

"It's not a controversial bill, because the process already exists and just needs to be made easier," said Wingate. "Last session, we even had Republicans voting for it." ▼



# Mission: Possible

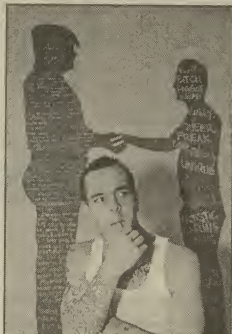
Not your ordinary kind of art exhibit

by Katie Szymanski

A few years ago, Aaron Moskowitz certainly never would have imagined that he would befriend and work creatively with an openly gay man. Moskowitz, 27, spent his young adult years as a skinhead who targeted his violence toward African Americans, Jews, Mexicans, and gays. Drifting in and out of jails for crimes ranging from drug sales to assault was a way of life, and bigotry was the attitude that he felt he needed to adopt to survive. That all changed one day behind bars when Moskowitz was placed – racist adornments and all – in a predominately black section of the jail, and to his surprise was not attacked but instead asked if he wanted to play cards.

"It tripped me out that blacks were not what people told me they were," remembered Moskowitz. "And from that day on I made it a point to re-examine what I thought I knew."

This week Moskowitz is spending a lot of time at the Mission Cultural Center, where his joint art project with city resident Dean Calhoun, a gay man who was the victim of two violent assaults, is on display as part of an anti-violence exhibit entitled "Mission: Possible." The pairing has helped Moskowitz face his past and has opened a new avenue for Calhoun to heal, and their project – images



Aaron Moskowitz with art work.

of their silhouettes containing written messages about their experiences with violence – is just one of many available for viewing.

"Mission: Possible," sponsored by Community Works in conjunction with the Resolve to Stop the Violence Project of the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, welcomed 400 visitors to its opening night last Friday, and community members continue to stream in each day. With a theme of restoration, the project relies on collaboration between the most unlikely folks, joining survivors with ex-offenders to emphasize that healing can occur in remarkable ways.

There is the project by Calhoun and Moskowitz, where Cal-

houn states, "My mind says it's my fault. I should have been walking differently." Calhoun had emotional trouble with the project, but apparently gained some strength from Moskowitz's advice on how to overcome fear. Another project by a woman whose daughter was killed by her lesbian lover stresses the importance of forgiveness and the connection she feels to both women. And in another corner, Moskowitz's self-portrait acknowledges, "My hatred for myself resonated in the eyes of my prey."

Moskowitz spoke to the *Bay Area Reporter* on Tuesday while he touched up some smudges and welcomed guests to the exhibit, but was upset by the absence of Calhoun, who couldn't make the interview due to illness.

"He was great to work with," said Moskowitz of Calhoun. As someone who has been involved with non-violence work for the past two years in San Francisco, the theme wasn't new to Moskowitz, but the experience was.

"I think I've always been an artist. I've always felt it," he said, adding that he had learned a lot about himself while in the company of survivors of violence.

"I didn't hate my victims at all. I hated myself. I guess I just wanted to fit in, to belong. It had a lot to do with how people saw me, and I've been dealing with sexual identity issues myself," he ex-

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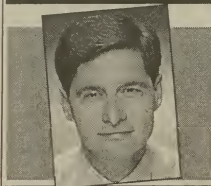
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## OPEN FORUM

## One down, one to go

We were thrilled when Linda Chavez withdrew her name from consideration for labor secretary Tuesday afternoon. Chavez, according to news accounts, was less than forthcoming when it came to answering questions concerning her decision to shelter and provide money to an illegal immigrant in the early 1990s. While noble on its merits, Chavez may have been in violation of the very labor laws that she would have been charged with upholding if she had been confirmed. Even the Bush transition team couldn't garner much support for the embattled Chavez as word spread that she had provided federal investigators with less than satisfactory answers about her relationship with Marta Mercado, the former illegal immigrant from Guatemala who now legally resides in the United States.

At her news conference, Chavez admitted that she was aware that Mercado was in the country illegally when she took her into her home. Chavez's troubles brought back memories of another Cabinet nominee (Zoe Baird) who was forced to withdraw from consideration in 1993 when it was revealed that she had hired an illegal immigrant and had failed to pay Social Security taxes for her employee. At the time, Chavez was blistering in her criticism of Baird; she now says that she thinks Baird was treated unfairly.

Bush angered organized labor with his selection of Chavez, who opposes affirmative action and the minimum wage. Labor leaders are hopeful that Bush's next pick will be more inclined to uphold laws that protect workers and keep workplaces safe. We agree.

More importantly, however, Democrats and other leading liberals have become emboldened by the Chavez withdrawal and can now focus their attention on blocking the confirmation of another Bush nominee: former Missouri Senator John Ashcroft for attorney general. It is Ashcroft's nomination that has provoked the most alarm as this week

a broad coalition of liberal groups joined forces and promised a tough fight when his Senate hearings begin this Tuesday.

Ashcroft, long known as one of the country's most conservative politicians, is strongly backed by the religious right, whose members urged Bush to appoint him to a high-level Cabinet post even before the fiasco in Florida had ended. Ashcroft strongly opposes equal rights for gays and abortion, and his commitment to civil rights is highly questionable given his active role in helping to derail an African American judge for a federal judgeship. What we fear from an Ashcroft Justice Department is that it might not enforce civil rights laws,

or worse, abolish positions in the department charged with enforcing those laws. Another frightening prospect is the influence Ashcroft would exert in appointments to the federal bench, including any vacancies that might occur on the U.S. Supreme Court.

It is imperative that LGBT folks get involved with helping fight the Ashcroft nomination. Senators should be contacted and urged to vote against his nomination. Senators should put aside the tradition of loyalty and collegiality within that august body; just because he used to be a senator does not mean he should automatically enjoy any type of favoritism. ▼



Editorial



## LGBTs should care about the death penalty

by Michael Heflin

As you read these words, barring some last minute legal miracle or final hour reprieve by the governor, Wanda Jean Allen, an African American lesbian woman, may have already been executed.

Why should the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community care about Wanda Jean Allen's execution or the larger issue of the death penalty? The answer to this question ought to be clear. As a community that faces discrimination and marginalization, we should be particularly concerned about the administration of justice in this country—especially when it involves fundamental issues of life and death. The death penalty is a basic human rights violation and is administered in this country in an arbitrary and discriminatory manner in clear contravention of international human rights standards.

In many ways Wanda Jean Allen's case is reflective of the general administration of the death penalty in this country.

Ms. Allen is an African American. In the U.S. there is clear evidence that the death penalty is administered in a racist manner, resulting in a disproportionate number of those on death row being African and Latino Americans.

Wanda Jean Allen comes from a background of poverty. The vast majority of those on death row in the U.S. are poor or from very limited means, and therefore receive inadequate legal representation. Ms. Allen's lawyer was handling his first death penalty case and was forced to mount her defense with a total payment of \$800, with no co-counsel, no investigator, and no resources to hire expert witnesses.

Wanda Jean Allen is seriously mentally impaired. At the age of 16 she underwent a psychological evaluation that revealed seri-

ous mental disabilities including mental retardation. The United States is one of few countries in the world that allow for the execution of those with serious mental disabilities, including mental retardation.

Wanda Jean Allen is also a lesbian who was sentenced to death in 1989 for the killing of her partner Gloria Leathers in Oklahoma City in 1988. There were references to her sexual orientation during her trial, including negative stereotypes about lesbians that may have prejudiced her case. At trial the prosecution asserted that Wanda Jean Allen "wore the pants in the family," that she was the dominant partner and exercised control over Ms. Leathers. The prosecution stressed the lesbian nature of relationship early and often.

Wanda Jean Allen is not the only LGBT person in this country facing execution. In Texas, an openly gay man, Calvin Burdine, awaits his execution date, following a trial at which he was represented by a lawyer who, at an earlier court hearing, referred to homosexuals as "queers" and "fairies," and did not object to a statement by the prosecutor that: "sending a homosexual to the penitentiary certainly isn't a very bad punishment for a homosexual." He also failed to exercise his right to remove three prospective jurors during jury selection who admitted to being prejudiced against homosexuals. He did not interview a single witness in preparing Calvin Burdine's defense and was seen to fall asleep repeatedly during the trial.

In another Texas case, Glen Charles McGinnis, an openly gay African American man, was executed on January 25, 2000. He was sentenced to death for a crime he committed at the age of 17. International law prohibits the use of the death penalty against child offenders—those under the age of 18 at

the time of their crime. Mr. McGinnis was also sentenced to death by an all white jury after the judge in his case released all the prospective black jurors from the jury pool.

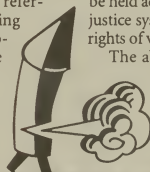
None of the hardships and injustices suffered by Mr. McGinnis, Mr. Burdine, and Ms. Allen justify their commission of the crimes for which they have been convicted. Each should be held accountable for his or her crimes in a justice system that respects the basic human rights of victims and defendants alike.

The above cases are, however, clear examples of the arbitrary and inhuman administration of the death penalty in this country. Because these cases involve members of our own LGBT community they present us with profound questions about our commitment to justice in the same way that the larger

issue of the death penalty asks such questions of Americans as a whole. Are we really committed to seeking human rights protections for all the members of our community, even those most marginalized, or are we only committed to pursuing a narrow human rights agenda—one that elevates us to the same standards as other Americans, but maintains the injustices in our own community that reflect those of the larger society?

Amnesty International is committed to the worldwide abolition of the death penalty as a fundamental human rights violation. Many LGBT organizations and leaders have now taken a strong and principled stand in opposing the death penalty. We encourage you to do the same—for the sake of others like Wanda Jean Allen. ▼

Michael Heflin is the director of Amnesty International USA's OUTfront program.



Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Board out of balance?

Armand Boulay, writing from Berkeley [Mailstrom, December 28], deplores the fact that the new Board of Supervisors in San Francisco will have 10 men and only one woman. He incorrectly states that "the new Board of Supervisors has elected 10 men and one token woman." It is the voters who elect the supervisors.

Mr. Boulay attempts to break down the makeup of the board by racial and sexual lines, and seems particularly distressed that there is not a single lesbian on the new board.

I have never believed that a person should be elected to a political position based on ethnic, religious, or sexual identities. I like to think that the voters attempt to vote for the best qualified candidate, regardless of the person's sex or other defining categories. I see no reason why a person's sexuality should have to be an issue, but the candidates in the Castro District seem to be compelled to stress their sexual identity.

If Mr. Boulay had taken a hard look at the makeup of our Board of Supervisors over the years, he would know that all kinds of people have found their way on and off the board, including a number of lesbians like Carole Migden, who has moved on to higher office. Is the current board really out of balance because it is missing a lesbian member?

Yes, it would be good to have more women on the board, but not if they are of the likes of Barbara Kaufman; and it would be fine to have a black face or two, but not if it means having to settle for someone like Amos Brown.

Mr. Boulay ends his letter by saying, "all SF needs next is a white male mayor, I guess." I would happily settle for a white male mayor if it meant ridding our city of Willie Brown, who is one of the biggest flops in City Hall history. Maybe a white mayor (or a lesbian, an Asian, or a black) might do something about our ghastly homeless problem, which leaves hundreds of troubled people on the streets; our transportation problems; our filthy streets; our do-nothing police department; and other pressing problems. Can Mr. Boulay deny that a hard-working, committed mayor of any sex or color would be head and shoulders above Willie Brown, whose chief claim to fame seems to be his endless collection of fedora hats?

William I. Bernell  
San Francisco

## The easiest remedy

This is in response to the letter from Erik Truman, which appeared in the January 4 issue.

The first woman appointed to the Board of Supervisors was Clarissa Shortall McMahon, who was appointed in 1953. She was elected in 1955 and re-elected in 1959 and 1963.

The second woman appointed to the Board of Supervisors was Dorothy von Beroldingen, who was appointed in 1966. She was elected in 1969 and re-elected in 1973.

The first woman elected to the Board of Supervisors without having been appointed first was Dianne Feinstein.

As Dorothy von Beroldingen and Dianne Feinstein were both on the board from 1970 to 1977, there hasn't been only one woman on the board since Dorothy von Beroldingen in the late 1960s.

I agree with Mr. Truman that something is wrong with Sophie Maxwell being the only woman on the Board of Supervisors; but as of this writing we don't know which of the supervisors were elected to two-year terms and which were elected to four-year terms.

The easiest way to rectify this wrong would be to elect more women to the Board of Supervisors in 2002 and 2004.

Robert V. Wood  
San Francisco

## Dorwin Jones will be missed

I read with great personal sadness the passing of one of our giants in the community. Dorwin Jones was not only a personal, longtime friend and neighbor for many years, but a mentor in our unique community and nation.

Yes, he will be missed, but that fabulous warm smile will forever be with us all, that is for sure.

Marvin-Michel LeGrier II, Esq.  
San Francisco

## Money raised for AIDS

During December at Reflections, the bartenders sold stockings for \$5 each. The patrons then put the name of a friend or loved one on the stocking. The stockings were then placed around the AIDS wreath, a tradition at Reflections. Bartender Michael "Mikey" McColligan started the annual holiday AIDS wreath five years ago; each year the bar and its customers raise money for AIDS charities.

This year, Reflections staff and patrons raised \$1,100 for Bay Area Perinatal AIDS Center, the most comprehensive perinatal HIV center in Northern Cal-

ifornia. BAYPAC provides information, counseling, referrals, support, primary care, and education to women and children with HIV. For more information about BAYPAC, call (415) 206-8919 or fax (415) 206-3626.

Ron McDonald  
Reflections  
San Francisco

## 'Midnight Serenade' meeting Saturday

I Got Skillz Entertainment is hosting the first "Midnight Serenade Gay Pride Ball." It is a chance for members of the gay community to come together and have a nice time in a formal fashion. The ball is for those 18 and over who are gay, lesbian, transgender, or heterosexual.

Proceeds from the ticket sales will benefit a local AIDS charity. We are looking for sponsors who can make a financial donation to help cover the cost of the event.

I am also hosting a meeting to discuss the event. The meeting will be held at Sweeties, 1800 Telegraph Avenue, in Oakland, this Saturday, January 13 at 3 p.m. For more information, contact me at (510) 536-0184.

Anthony Martin, Promotions Director  
I Got Skillz Entertainment

## Archives have new address

I thought I'd send out a change of address to people working in the movement/community for equal rights for homosexuals and at the same time urge support for the dozen or so libraries/archives in our community.

The valuable material saved for historians by the three leaders of One, and thus material from early Mattachine as well, are now to be located at the University of Southern California, under the general new name of One Institute and Archives at USC.

The three main collections are: Jim Kepner's International Gay and Lesbian Archives, Dorr Legg's Blanche Baker Library, and Don Slater's Homosexual Information Center, thus bringing together the former One works separated since the 1950s, to start the new millennium again serving the academic community and the authors, students, and general public and giving balance to information on the subject of homosexuality.

The building, provided by USC, is located at 909 W. Adams, a few blocks from the main campus. But the material is still under the control of the homosexual community, including HIC material as well as women's material, Jewish material, Morris Kight material, etc. And this is just one of several movement archives expanding and seeking material. Gerber/Hart in Chicago, Stonewall in Fort Lauderdale, and others are growing and serving the gay and lesbian community.

Movement publications and organizations should let their readers and members know of this area of education and the need to preserve our history. The phone number is now (213) 741-0094. The address and phone in West Hollywood are still valid as is the address in Louisiana (HIC Inc., 115 Monroe Street, Bossier City, LA 71111).

William Edward Glover, Vice Chair  
HIC Inc.  
Bossier City, Louisiana

## A 'rainbow of genders' needed

Because the right to vote has been denied, the civil rights movement and the National Organization for Women will organize citizen protests January 15-20, from Martin Luther King Jr. Day through "In-Hawg-Uration" Day.

We hope all persons, groups, and periodicals will participate. We should do this because we believe in freedom and democracy.

And also, because the gang that couldn't count right, the undicted conspirators who stole the White House, the oligarchy which oppresses most people of color, just happens to be - surprise, surprise - the party dedicated, on sectarian religious principles, to oppressing queers and womyn.

Let's save our country from its court-appointed rulers. We must suspend our political infighting for awhile, and re-learn how to work together for civil rights, in coalition with a rainbow of genders, colors, ages, beliefs, and orientations.

Don't expect the feds to defend voting rights. Indeed, His Fraudulency's new attorney general would rather destroy our civil liberties. So if freedom and democracy are to be rescued, we the people must do the job ourselves.

Pat Firby, Tortuga Bi Liberty,  
William Epsen, Walter Claston,  
Charlesetta Burks, Yolanda Warren  
Senior Unlimited Nudes  
San Francisco

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# Exploding the nuclear family

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

Whether I want it to or not, the holiday season makes me think of my birth family. I think it is simply conspicuous in its absence.

You see, they don't want much to do with me, which makes those family gatherings - that I actually recall as being rather boring - become something that I miss.

I come from a pretty basic family: mom, dad, my sister and I, as well as a bevy of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and grandparents. As a general rule, we would only count on a get-together for Christmas. We'd all gather for pancakes and fatty sausage, and spend a few hours tied by the bonds of family.

All that changed when I transitioned. Not only am I not invited to such family get-togethers, but those gatherings have ceased entirely. I don't hear much about all those relations, save for those few stories my mom opts to share.

I suppose I should be glad about it. There are some folks in the family that I can't say I much cared for, and whom I do not much miss. For example, that aunt of mine who could turn the holidays into something like *Martha Stewart Living* as directed by John Waters.

I should also be happy to be the family "black sheep" given the stories that many of my friends have brought back from their own trips to see relatives this year. The sister who opted to use twice as many pronouns than any one person should, or the burly, bearded FTM who went home and was suddenly "#1 daughter" all over again.

But I do miss that concept of family. It is what I grew up with. That reassurance that, no matter what, we would all gather for that annual trading of gifts, cards, and stories of our yearly exploits. Even if it means being asked all the same old questions.

Back before transition, after my lover and I got married, the question that was always posed to us was the old "when are you going to have kids?" And yes, after listening to me go on about family, one might ask me the same question - after all, one can grow their own

family. And I could probably find a fine, upstanding sperm donor willing to lend a hand.

For that matter, I could wait until the Japanese scientists who are producing sperm from stem cells turn their attention to growing viable egg cells. I would still lack a uterus, though. The devil is clearly in the details.

I wonder what people would think if we did get in a family way? Can't you just picture a tall transgendered woman and her ambiguously-gendered lover pushing a baby carriage around? It

would be Ozzie and Harriet gone awry. And that may well be

a good thing. But I just don't think that either of us are ready to begin our transition into soccer moms. Perhaps we could just get a baby bonnet for Idgie, our cat. She is already convinced that we are her two moms, and I would simply hate to tell her that she's adopted.

I'm not completely without family. I may not hear from that menagerie of relatives anymore, but I still have contact with my mom and sister, as well as the occasional murmur from my dad. And I do have a spouse who is about as close to me as I can get to my blood relations.

Of course, being married means that I also have in-laws. The relationship with her family has improved over the last year as well, and I was quite happy with the way their recent visit with us went, especially given how some have gone in the past. My father-in-law actually gave me a hug this year, something that I suspect was quite a bit of a step for him.

But I have more than even that. I have my "Aunt Katie" back in New York, who is always there when I need an ear to listen, a shoulder to cry upon, or a firm boot to my posterior. I've got more than a few other sisters who I do not share blood with, but clearly share history and experience. And I have a very special brother, Jerry.

Jerry has taught me a thing or two about chosen families over



the years. He's also taught me a lot about what it was like for him to be socialized as a woman. In return, he has had to hear tales of my own growing up as a boy, as well as more than a couple beard shaving tips.

A few weeks ago, he told me a story about his brother by birth, who one time cleaned out Jerry's coin collection. One of the more heartbreaking losses was a 1888 New Orleans mint "Morgan" silver dollar, in beautiful condition. It was sold off for face value. Jerry will probably never forgive his brother for that, but - for better or worse - they're still bonded by family blood.

This year, Jerry and his lover got us a beautiful pottery vase that we wanted. We got them a 1888 silver dollar, as minted in New Orleans. We didn't buy it for anything near face value, but that's unimportant. I felt it was what a chosen member of Jerry's family ought to do.

So until the day comes that having a family of our own becomes a desirable option, or when my birth family decides that turning me away will not change who I am, I will be with my chosen family, in relationships that may indeed be stronger than blood. ▼

Gwen Smith's family does not include the woman who makes those pre-made, frozen pies. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).

## CarShare

◀ page 2

in the next few months (5th/Mission Garage, North Beach Vallejo Garage, Golden Gateway Garage, and the Performing Arts Garage at Grove and Gough streets).

"This has also been a huge success in Switzerland, Seattle, Vancouver, Portland, and Boston," said Supervisor Mark Leno, who has helped secure support for the program from public and private sources. "We figure that every carshare vehicle can serve 15 car-share members and if half of these actually give up their own car, and if we can build the program to 500 cars, we're talking about taking 3,500 cars off the streets in San Francisco."

City CarShare's mission is "to promote car-sharing as a community-based transportation option

that respects the environmental, economic, and social integrity of our neighborhoods and planet."

City CarShare members will be able to take cars from the neighborhood lots on an hourly or daily basis, to fit the exact length of their trip. When members want to use a car, they simply call an 800 number and reserve one. A smart card system will make the cars available for members' use 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

At the end of the month, members will receive a bill in the mail, based on the amount of time they have driven that month. Organizers say that most shared cars will be small and fuel-efficient, though when members need a truck to carry something large or heavy, pickups will be available, too.

Other City CarShare lots are expected to open later this year in the Mission District at 16th Street and

at 24th Street and, depending on neighborhood interest and involvement, other lots may open as well.

"Cars in San Francisco spend an average of 23 out of every 24 hours parked on the street, turning the city into a huge parking lot," said Leno, who expects the program to start operations next month. "We want people to consider giving up their car, or if they are a two-car family, at least giving up one of their cars" to participate in the program.

City CarShare will be holding an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the community room of Notre Dame Plaza at 347 Dolores at 16th Street, across from Mission Dolores.

For more information, RSVP for the January 23 community meeting at (415) 995-8588. Or visit the group's Web site at [www.sfcarsshare.org](http://www.sfcarsshare.org). ▼



# George W. Bush's disturbing Cabinet picks

by Wayne Friday

The U.S. Senate will soon hold confirmation hearings on President-elect **George W. Bush's** 14 Cabinet positions as well as his choice to lead the Environmental Protection Agency and none are more controversial than his choice of former Missouri Senator **John Ashcroft** to serve as attorney general.

Bush also nominated longtime Republican partisan **Linda Chavez** to become secretary of the Labor Department. Chavez, however, withdrew her name from consideration Tuesday afternoon after questions arose over the weekend regarding the status of an illegal immigrant who resided in Chavez's household and allegedly performed odd jobs for her from 1990 to 1991. The issue became increasingly controversial because under federal law, it's illegal to employ an illegal worker and to house a known illegal immigrant. The issue promised to be the dominant one during Senate confirmation hearings, now, however, it appears that Bush will be selecting someone else to lead the Labor Department.

Ashcroft should be rejected. This column gave many reasons last week why Ashcroft is unqualified to lead the Justice Department. Ashcroft has always been an outspoken advocate for the agenda of the religious right and much of that agenda would involve his job as attorney general — such as the issues of gay rights, gun control, abortion, prayer in schools, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Furthermore, Ashcroft, as attorney general, would likely be the president's chief adviser on choosing nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court. The *New York Times* revealed recently that the religious right, led by those like **James Dobson**, president of Focus on the Family, openly promoted Ashcroft for the powerful Justice Department post almost from the day it appeared Bush would gain the presidency. The *Times* reported that as far back as last summer leaders of the religious right started pushing Ashcroft as a "good" choice for the AG position. In fact, it has now been revealed that since the November 7 election, two other possible Bush choices for the attorney general spot were rejected by the Republican right and only the suggestion of Ashcroft was acceptable to them.

One can only assume that it was with this blending of religion and politics that then-Senator Ashcroft led the fight, along with Senators **James Inhofe** (R-Oklahoma) and **Jesse Helms** (R-North Carolina) against the confirmation of San Francisco's **James Hormel** to serve as ambassador to Luxembourg, based solely on Hormel's sexual orientation, making it necessary for President Clinton to then appoint Hormel to the post in June 1999 as a recess appointment.

Ashcroft should be rejected by the U.S. Senate; two important votes in that confirmation process will come from California's two Democratic senators — **Dianne**

**Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.**

Call their offices today and urge that they vote against Ashcroft. Senator Feinstein: (415) 393-0707, (202) 224-3841, or e-mail Senator@Feinstein.senate.gov; Senator Boxer: (415) 403-0100, (202) 224-3553, or e-mail Senator@Boxer.Senate.gov.

## Politics and people

Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** (9th District) was unanimously re-elected president of the new Board of Supervisors on Monday, January 8 after the new members took office. By order of lot, those supervisors elected from odd-numbered districts will get to serve four-year terms while those from even-numbered districts will serve two-year terms. Supervisor **Mark Leno** (8th District) will have to run again for re-election in two years while Ammiano gets a four-year term.

Plenty of mayoral talk at the swearing-in ceremony Monday of the new Board of Supes — among the names being mentioned were **Carole Migden**, **Tom Ammiano**, **Gavin Newsom**, **Barbara Kaufman**, **John Burton**, **Leland Yee**, and **Angela Alioto**.

Meanwhile, prominent local attorney **Neil Eisenberg** tells me he will be a candidate for city attorney against incumbent **Louise Renne** in November.

California Senator Barbara Boxer was appointed last week by Democratic Senate leader **Tom Daschle** to the post of chief deputy for strategic outreach, making her the only new permanent member of the Senate Democratic leadership.

Governor **Gray Davis** has set special election dates of April 10 to fill a vacancy in the 32nd Congressional District created by the death of Representative **Julian Dixon** and March 6 to fill a state Senate seat in the 24th District that became vacant when **Hilda Solis** was elected to Congress. Both are heavily Democratic districts and if no candidate gets more than 50 percent of the vote, runoff will be May 1 for Solis and June 5 for Dixon's seat among the top vote-getters from each party.

The California Republican Party Central Committee delegates will meet next month in Sacramento to choose a new state GOP chair and the battered state Republicans look for a knockdown fight between former Assemblyman **Brooks Firestone** of Santa Barbara, a moderate, and current state GOP Vice Chair **Shawn Steel**, the conservative candidate.

With the 2000 census giving California an additional congressional seat and with the Democrats in complete control of reapportionment, look for the 53rd U.S. House seat to go to Southern California and the Republican incumbent there who has the most to fear from Democratic line-drawing is Representative **Steve Horn**, the Republican now holding the 38th District seat; Sacramento Democrats likely will re-district Horn out of a job in the area that already has Democratic registration advantages, and will probably end up as a district favoring a Latino candidate.



Joel Wachs

Los Angeles, incidentally, will elect a new mayor in April and the gay and lesbian community is somewhat split there between openly gay councilman **Joel Wachs** and former Assembly Speaker **Antonio Villaraigosa**, both longtime advocates for the gay community. Meanwhile, one of the other leading mayoral candidates in that race, wealthy businessman **Steve Soboroff**, who has the endorsement of outgoing mayor **Richard Riordan**, has San Francisco's talented **Ace Smith**, the son of former District Attorney **Arlo Smith**, as his chief political consultant. The feeling in L.A. is that either Wachs, Soboroff, or Villaraigosa will make it into a runoff with popular City Attorney **James Hahn** to become the next Los Angeles mayor.

The best appointment by president-elect George W. Bush so far from where I sit (and there haven't been a hell of a lot of good ones) has to be **Mary Malin**, the co-host of CNN's *Crossfire* program and veteran conservative Republican operative who was named last week as counsel to Vice President-elect **Dick Cheney** and who will reportedly serve as an assistant to the new president. A lower level appointment, to be sure, but Malin, the high-profile wife of popular Democratic Clinton political guru **James Carville** (making them D.C.'s best known political odd couple) is said to be very gay-friendly, reportedly she and her husband have many gay friends, and I heard her say recently on TV that "any Republican who even thinks about gay-bashing will have to deal with me." Gays who know her say she can be a real "bitch" to those who make anti-gay comments in her presence.

Hey, even in Texas, African Americans who know George W. Bush apparently don't like him; while Bush boasted throughout the presidential campaign that he won 29 percent of the black vote in Texas when he sought re-election as governor, it should be noted that he won only 5 percent of the Texas black vote on November 7.

Democrat **Ruth Ann Minner**, a high school dropout, was sworn in last week as the governor of Delaware; the country now has five female governors, the most ever.

The numbers of the new 107th Congress: a 50-50 split among Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Senate; the 435-seat House is split among 221 Republicans, 211 Democrats, two independents, and one vacancy due to the death of California Representative **Julian Dixon**.

next page ►

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# Good riddance to President Clinton

by Dale Carpenter

He came in with great promise, promising greatly. He leaves with the worst legislative record on gay issues of any president in the history of the country. By his personal irresponsibility, and by his total lack of genuine commitment to the cause of gay equality, President Bill Clinton squandered the opportunity to speak with real moral authority about the place of gays in American life.

Clinton's legislative record on gay issues will unfortunately be with us for decades. No major pro-gay federal measure passed during Clinton's time, not even during the two years in which his party controlled both houses of Congress. On the anti-gay side of the ledger, the most shameful aspects of Clinton's legal legacy are by now familiar, but it is worth recalling how profoundly they damaged the lives of real gay Americans.

Clinton campaigned for gay votes and gay dollars in 1992 on a promise to lift the ban on gays in the military — and we believed

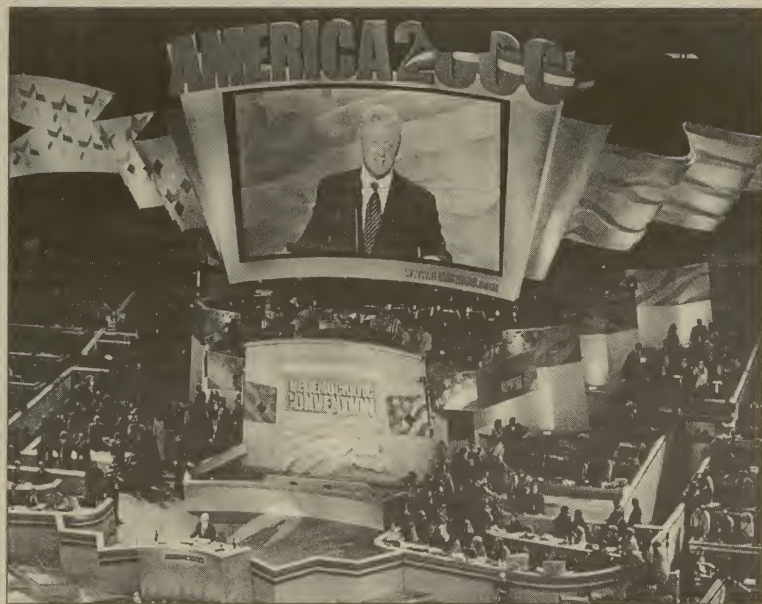
him. Yet rather than immediately ending the ban by executive order, which he could have done and which enjoyed majority support in polls at the time, Clinton stalled. This delay allowed supporters of the ban, led by Democratic Senator Sam Nunn, to initiate highly publicized hearings on the effect of ending the policy. The resulting investigation, which focused luridly on group showers and close sleeping quarters, played devastatingly on the worst stereotypes about sexually predatory homosexuals.

Worse still, neither Clinton nor his administration responded to Nunn's nonsense. At the height of the furor, Clinton, in a live television appearance from the Rose Garden, even said the government should be careful not to "condone" the homosexual "lifestyle."

By the summer of 1993, Clinton had permitted Nunn's crowd to dominate the debate so thoroughly that it was necessary to "compromise" by enacting "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Within a year, observers warned that DADT was being used to continue and even to accelerate anti-gay witch-hunts and discharges. Clinton ignored the problem.

The result is the most easily quantifiable harm done to actual gay people during the Clinton years. According to figures from the Defense Department, discharges for homosexuality declined every year between the first full year of the Reagan administration (1982) and the first full year of the Clinton administration (1994) — for a total decline of more than 70 percent during the period. But in 1994 the number of anti-gay discharges began to rise and has risen every year since. On an annual basis, such discharges have more than doubled since 1994. In 1998, they climbed above 1,000 for the first time in 10 years.

Such dismissals represent hopes smashed, families shattered, a life's work cut short. While Clinton's administration was hiring scores of openly gay campaign contributors (as we were tirelessly reminded), the same administration was firing thousands more



President Clinton speaking at the Democratic convention in Los Angeles last August.

through military discharges. From its inception through its implementation, DADT has been a betrayal of trust that should never be forgotten.

Also not to be forgotten is Clinton's support for the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996. Recall that DOMA created the first-ever congressional definition of marriage, denying to future gay newlyweds all of the benefits of marriage accorded to opposite-sex couples under federal law. It also fueled a series of state DOMA laws, the opposition to which has consumed millions of gay dollars and countless hours of volunteer time.

Clinton's defenders say he had to back the bill in the politically charged atmosphere of a presidential election year. Yet Clinton agreed to sign DOMA before it was even drafted, suggesting an enthusiasm for this political necessity that goes above and beyond the call of duty. And then Clinton turned this supposed necessity into a virtue, publicizing his support for DOMA in commercials

that aired on Christian radio stations during the fall campaign.

Some will respond that, whatever the legislative disappointments, the social standing of gays has risen greatly in the eight years Bill Clinton has inhabited the White House. So it has. But how much of that rise is attributable to Clinton? Very little more than none.

Recall that Clinton signed his marriage-defense law while he himself conducted an extramarital affair. It was the perfect Clintonian moment: defend the principle in the abstract (the sanctity of heterosexual marriage; gay equality) while you corrode it in the application (Monica Lewinsky; DADT and DOMA).

The Lewinsky affair confirmed Clinton's lack of personal integrity, his refusal to control his appetites, and his penchant for betraying those closest to him. It exposed a grownup reluctant to grow up, disinclined to take responsibility for himself and his actions, and unwilling to see in life a duty higher than the preservation of self-interest.

Who could take seriously any instruction from this man? Who could credit his lectures about what ails American culture, including its anti-gay aspects? Clinton lost any authority to speak authoritatively on important cultural matters, like basic fairness for gay Americans.

But even if he'd had the authority, he lacked the will. For Clinton, gays were an expendable constituency. He threw us just enough sops (an administration appointment here, using the word "gay" in a speech there) to keep us quiet when he betrayed us. We accepted this deal because, like a battered spouse, we thought we'd never had it so good.

Having tied ourselves so closely to this man we sit beside the stench of his moral putrefaction, in need of a bath. ▽

Dale Carpenter, a law professor, is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).

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## Our Man Friday

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Snubbed spoiler: *U.S. News & World Report* tells us that Green Party candidate **Ralph Nader's** spoiler bid for the presidency, which garnered a dismal 3 percent of the national vote but helped George W. Bush gain the presidency, is going to cost the consumer advocate more than a lot of new political enemies. A top Clinton official says that she and her wealthy husband, longtime Nader friends, have cut him out of their will. The couple had included a "substantial bequest" to Nader organizations in their final testaments but had them redrawn after his "spoiler" campaign.

And while the Green Party will forever be remembered as having cost Democrat **Al Gore** the presidency by pulling in just enough votes to give the presidency to Bush, in the sleepy Northern California town of Sebastopol (population 8,000) Greens won two City Council seats on November 7, giving them a three-person con-

trol of the town's five-member City Council, including the mayor, **Larry Robinson**.

Britain has scrapped laws making homosexuality a crime in its five Caribbean territories, acting after legislatures refused to do so. The order from the British Privy Council, which acts as the highest court for the territories, recently decriminalized homosexual acts between consenting adults in private. The order went into effect last week and applies to Anguilla, the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos.

Congratulations to one of my favorite people, actress **Elizabeth Taylor**. Taylor was presented the Presidential Citizen's Medal by President **Bill Clinton** Monday during a White House ceremony. Taylor was recognized for her tireless work in the AIDS battle. She co-founded AmFAR with Dr. **Mathilde Krim**, and set up the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation and raised millions to fight the disease; through all the trauma and drama of recent years, Taylor's commitment to the

next page ▶



# Adult swim

by Jane Warner

**2**00 block of Dolores, January 1, 10 p.m.: An apartment manager called police after a tenant complained of water leaking from her ceiling. Responding to the apartment above, officers could hear running water coming from the inside. They knocked on the door but no one responded, so the manager opened the apartment with a key. When officers peered into the apartment, they found three inches of water on the floor and several kitchen appliances running. A man was standing in the bathroom doorway naked. When officers approached him, the man sprayed them with a can of Lysol and started screaming incoherently. Officers wrestled the man to the water-soaked floor and took him into custody. A warrant check of the 41-year-old man revealed that he was wanted in Wisconsin for probation violation, and the state agreed to extradition.



**Crime & Punishment**

and a man answered. The room was in disarray, with clothes thrown, dresser drawers pulled out, and several unidentifiable wet spots on the carpet. When one of the officers told the man he needed to leave, the suspect got up and thrust his finger in her face, threatening, "Tell her to get the fuck out of here." Officers quickly placed the man in handcuffs and arrested him for trespassing and threatening a police officer. A computer check also revealed that the alleged squatter had an outstanding no bail warrant. The 53-year-old man was taken to Mission Station and booked accordingly.

## Tree alarm

**Castro Street, January 6, 12:16 a.m.** Several people called police after witnessing a man set fire to a Christmas tree on the sidewalk at 18th and Castro. The man, who was with another man and a woman, told onlookers not to extinguish the burning tree, which started to ignite a nearby plant as well. The manager of Uncle Bert's ran out of the bar, ignoring the suspect's taunts and quickly dousing the flames with a fire extinguisher. The fire bugs ran southbound up Castro toward 19th. Police searching the area found several people putting out another

flaming Tannenbaum fronting China Court Restaurant, and another group stomping on a burning tree on the 700 block of Castro. Witnesses said the Bic-flicking trio boarded the 24-Divisadero bus, and police stopped the coach on 24th Street.

Two men, ages 19 and 26, were taken into custody and booked for three counts of arson. A 23-year-old female with them was released due to insufficient evidence.

## Tweaker alert

**20th and Dolores, January 1, 10 p.m.** After having dinner at a friend's house, a man walked to his parked car. When he was almost there, a stranger came out of the shadows and asked if he wanted to buy speed. The man said he didn't do speed, and the "dealer" suddenly grabbed him by the neck, slugged him in the nose, and told him, "Give me your wallet." Although severely injured, the victim fought back, biting the suspect on the hand. A fight ensued and the suspect gave up, running southbound on 20th. The victim drove himself to the hospital where he received treatment for a broken nose as well as surgery to put three pins in a broken foot. ▼

**The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.**

## Inn-cognito

**Beck's Motor Lodge, 2222 Market, January 5, 2:30 p.m.** Hotel management called police after a guest refused to leave. Officers knocked on the door of the room

# Meet four lesbian legislators at Sacramento events this month

by Terry Beswick

**C**alling all queers to Sacramento, where LGBT and other politicians are celebrating last year's historic election of four openly lesbian state legislators: veteran champions state Senator Sheila J. Kuehl (D-Los Angeles) and Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco); and freshman Assemblywomen Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles) and Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego).

## January 17 reception

The four will be the special honorees at "Achieving Equality in the New Millennium," a welcoming reception for all legislators in the rotunda of the state Capitol this Wednesday, January 17 from 5-7 p.m. The event is being organized by the California Alliance for Pride and Equality, one of the statewide LGBT lobby groups, and other organizations. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP requested by January 12; call (916) 929-6331 or e-mail [eric.astacian@home.com](mailto:eric.astacian@home.com).

## January 22 forum

The lesbian foursome are also to be the guests of honor at a special community forum on Monday, January 22 at 6 p.m. "This may be the only time in the next two years when you will have this opportunity



Lesbian legislators, clockwise from top left: Jackie Goldberg, Christine Kehoe, Sheila Kuehl, and Carole Migden.

ty to meet all four," said Sam Catalano, chairman of Sacramento Valley CAPE, which is co-sponsoring the event at the state Capitol with Triangle magazine. Kuehl, Migden,

Goldberg, and Kehoe are each expected to make remarks and take questions from the audience. For more information, send an e-mail to [CatalanoSM@aol.com](mailto:CatalanoSM@aol.com). ▼

## Our Man Friday

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fight against AIDS has remained her one real passion.

When **Milton Marks III** was sworn Monday to a seat on the City College of San Francisco Board of Trustees he became the

third generation member of a respected San Francisco political family to take public office. His father, the late **Milton Marks**, represented San Francisco and Marin in the Assembly and state Senate for decades; his grandfather, **Milton Marks Sr.**, was a prominent attorney who also served in the state Assembly.

My quote of the week comes from New York Governor **George Pataki**, who after learning that his recent appointee for state motor vehicle commissioner had been convicted of a DWI arrest in 1989, said: "Well, I guess that qualifies you to be president of the United States, then."

And how was your week? ▼




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## Ashcroft

◀ page 1

on the Hill and as director of the LCCR, "this is the worst executive branch nomination I have ever seen." He cited the respected *National Journal* as ranking Ashcroft as the most conservative senator in 1999, "to the right of Senator Jesse Helms."

Calling the position of attorney general "the lawyer for all of the people," Neas said that Ashcroft "has a public record of indifference if not outright hostility to equal opportunity for all Americans." He urged George W. Bush to "withdraw this nomination."

### Gay concerns

At the core of Bush's campaign was his pledge "to unite the nation," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign. "The nomination of Senator Ashcroft represents the extreme antithesis of that goal."



HRC's Elizabeth Birch

"We are gravely concerned that an Ashcroft tenure would be more about judgment than justice," Birch said. "He has shown a strong predisposition to only support people and policies that can successfully pass through the eye of

an extremely narrow ideological needle."

During his six years in the Senate, Ashcroft "has an absolutely perfect record of abandoning gay Americans at every turn," said Birch. She cited his opposition to the nomination of James Hormel as ambassador to Luxembourg, "based not on the merits but by labels and categories." He has opposed hate crimes laws and she questioned his ability to enforce those already on the books.

Birch asked members of the Senate "to put aside the tradition of loyalty and collegiality within that body long enough to withhold judgment so that they can seek a full and fair presentation of the facts." She was confident that would lead to rejection of the nomination.

In a discussion following the news conference, Alexander Robinson said that Ashcroft "has opposed provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act." That legislation provides legal protection against discrimination in employment and the provision of services for people living with HIV infection, explained the former member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

Rich Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans, said they had made their discomfort with Ashcroft known to the Bush organization. He did not seem inclined to publicly work against Ashcroft, nor did he criticize others for doing so. "Each organization has their role," he said.

### Strategy and tactics

Reporters questioned whether the nominee could be defeated. The National Organization for Women's Patricia Ireland seemed to speak for all of those present when she said they have "a strong, grassroots, experienced, angry constituency" that recently mobilized for the fall election. She called that "a huge advantage" in fighting this battle.

Questions from reporters sug-

gested that it would be difficult to defeat Ashcroft, and that perhaps the groups were doing it primarily to raise money from their base of supporters. Michelman found the comment "very insulting." She said, "It is the Bush administration that should be questioned as to their motives and their intent."

Other speakers suggested that the effort would lead to further spending rather than fundraising in educating and activating their members.

It will be difficult to defeat Ashcroft. Few, if any, Senate Republicans are likely to defect from supporting Bush on one of the first votes of his administration. Perhaps the most liberal Republican, Jim Jeffords of Vermont, sings in a barbershop quartet with Ashcroft. Tafel and those on the stage in opposition acknowledged that the collegiality of the Senate is a tie that works in Ashcroft's favor and will be difficult to overcome.

Robinson called it "a challenge for both sides" of the ideological spectrum. There are "activated, motivated constituencies" in both parties that are taking stands on principles that they represent. "Are we really serious? And to what extent is the Senate going to be held accountable?" he asked.

Later that same day, on January 9, Linda Chavez withdrew as nominee to be secretary of Labor. She said that controversy surrounding whether or not she employed an illegal alien was distracting from the process of putting together a government.

HRC had been preoccupied with the Ashcroft nomination and had not yet focused on Chavez, Birch said earlier in the day. Now it will look at the nomination of Gale Norton for secretary of the Interior, who is opposed by many environmental groups. Birch said they "probably will end up being very supportive" of opposition to Norton, but likely will not formally oppose her "because it is not really our set of issues" as an organization. ▼

## Needle exchange

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agency would continue its drug treatment services during exchange time. The abscess wound clinic will also continue to treat 25 people per week.

Missed will be the hot daily meals, HIV testing and counseling, case management, food and clothing banks, acupuncture detox, and herbal and vitamin treatments which have made Casa Segura a nationally recognized model. The federal government recently awarded the agency a prestigious multi-year grant to continue its critical HIV prevention work.

Recently appointed Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker, whose district includes the Fruitvale area, said that she was "saddened and shocked by the fire which needs to be fully investigated. The county will ensure continuity of service and support an appropriate new location."

Gerald Lenoir, Casa Segura board secretary and co-founder, praised staff and volunteers who have "acted above and beyond the call of duty during this crisis." He called for "unity rather than divisiveness" and castigated a few neighbors and a member of Fruitvale District City Council member Ignacio De La Fuente's staff for circulating an "inflammatory statement" at the press conference.

The De La Fuente statement was a letter written to Casa Segura's director dated November 21 concerning the location of the Fruitvale exchange. The letter concluded: "I expect you and your

staff will proactively and aggressively seek out a new location. ... And I expect that my office will make the final determination about whether a potential site is acceptable with respect to the impact on surrounding neighbors."

Supervisor Keith Carson, a longtime supporter of LGBT and AIDS causes, made the following statement regarding site locations. "All neighborhoods, regardless of

understand that the county fully backs Casa Segura and all other needle exchange sites. He said the board will back any temporary site for the agency and engage in dialogue with city of Oakland officials to find a suitable ongoing, permanent location.

Oakland officials have recently come under fire by the African American AIDS Task Force for doing nothing about AIDS. Task

**"I expect you and your staff will proactively and aggressively seek out a new location. ... And I expect that my office will make the final determination about whether a potential site is acceptable with respect to the impact on surrounding neighbors."**

whether you're building low-income housing or other facilities, seem to have this 'not-in-my-backyard' syndrome. Unfortunately we have to go in somebody's backyard to provide housing or drug treatment. If prostitution, drug use and addiction, and people who need help are in a community, we have to go where those individuals are. This happens to be in our communities and neighborhoods."

Carson reiterated that he wanted the perpetrators of the fire to

force spokesman Alvan Quamina challenged Mayor Jerry Brown "to find resources and a new location for Casa Segura that works for everyone; the clients, the staff, and the neighborhood."

Calls to Brown's office and the Oakland Police Department were not returned and no statements had been issued as of press time. ▼

**To help Casa Segura, call board secretary Gerald Lenoir at (510) 568-1680.**



# 'Prunefest' Sunday to revitalize Castro park

by Terry Beswick

The dirty little triangular patch of weeds that tips the corner of 17th, Castro, and Market streets is no more.

Now dubbed the Pink Triangle Park by a small group of neighbors of the city-owned eyesore who have taken control of it, the odd-shaped park is gradually being transformed into a "beautiful and welcoming entrance to our world-famous neighborhood by making it a place to reflect upon the past, contemplate the present, and plan for a future free from persecution based on sexual orientation," according to organizers, who plan a memorial to victims of the Nazi Holocaust at the site.

The sponsoring group, known as Concerned Castro Neighbors, has worked closely with the Eureka Valley Promotional Association on the project. The groups raised over \$2,100 at the 2000 Castro Street Fair last September for the project, which they also hope will enhance pedestrian safety and discourage inappropriate use of the land, which borders the transitional housing facility for queer young adults expected to open later this month.

Neighborhood volunteers and city staff began cleaning up and landscaping the barren strip last October, planting over 40 pink rose bushes donated by Regan's Nursery in Fremont.

Gustavo Serina, one of the committee members for the project, said the idea originated with Joe Foster, also a committee member, after they saw the documentary *Paragraph 175* at the Castro Theater. Serina said that Foster and others surveyed some of those who saw the film, who thought



Volunteers Joe Foster, Gustavo Serina, and Herb Cohn are part of a core committee of 17 who are creating Pink Triangle park to honor gay victims of the Nazi regime.

the small plot of land would make a good memorial, and it was already in the shape of a triangle.

"America doesn't have a memorial like this," Serina said, adding that there are a few in Europe. He and others hope that once the project is finished, people will stop and think not only about the horrors of the Nazi era, but also about more recent incidents involving hate, such as the murder of Matthew Shepard.

This Sunday, January 14, volunteers are invited to grab their pruning shears and join other urban beautifiers from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to help with the next phase in the development of the Pink Triangle Park. Gardeners will be pruning the rose bushes and getting the soil ready for more planting in the spring.

Help is also needed for ongoing maintenance of the park, and people are encouraged to sign up

on Sunday for specific tasks and work dates.

Designs for a lasting memorial in Pink Triangle Park to gay and lesbian victims of the Holocaust are invited from local artists. Mail designs by Tuesday, February 20 to P.O. Box 14484, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Financial donations are also being accepted to support the project. If donors need a charitable tax deduction, make the check payable to Theater Rhinoceros (which has agreed to serve as fiscal agent for the project). Otherwise, checks should be made payable to the Eureka Valley Promotional Association. In both cases, checks should refer to Pink Triangle Park and be mailed to P.O. Box 14484, San Francisco, CA 94114.

To volunteer, or more information about the Pink Triangle Park, call (415) 565-0629. ▼

## Louisiana appeals court gets sodomy case

by Liz Highleyman

On Monday January 8, Louisiana's 4th Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments regarding the constitutionality of the state's sodomy law.

The appeal, which was brought by the Louisiana Electorate of Gay and Lesbians and nine gay or lesbian individuals, is the latest step in a long battle to overturn the nearly 200-year-old "crimes against nature" statute. Plaintiffs argue that the law unfairly targets homosexuals. According to LEGAL attorney John Rawls, the law "denies [same sex partners] the right to have sex under any circumstances."

Unlike several state sodomy statutes, however, Louisiana's law bans oral or anal sex between individuals of any gender; violators are

subject to a five-year prison sentence. Louisiana state attorneys defending the law say it promotes marriage and encourages procreation.

In a separate but related case, the appeals court ruled in February 1999 that the ancient law violated the state's privacy provisions. The decision overturned the conviction of a man who performed oral sex on a woman. According to the justices, "There can be no doubt that the right of consenting adults to engage in private non-commercial sexual activity, free from governmental interference, is protected by the privacy clause of the Louisiana constitution." A state judge determined that the law was unconstitutional in March, but the state appealed the verdict to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

In July 2000, the Louisiana Supreme Court voted 5-2 to up-

hold the sodomy law and reinstate the conviction that had been overturned by the lower court. According to Supreme Court Justice Chet Traylor, "Simply put, commission of what the Legislature determines as an immoral act, even if consensual and private, is an injury against society itself." The two dissenting justices said the law was an "intolerable" government intrusion, stating, "The only apparent purpose of the prohibition is to dictate the type of sex that is acceptable to legislators."

The July ruling does not directly impact the LEGAL appeal, which is being argued on discrimination rather than privacy grounds. Because the case does not raise any federal issues, according to Rawls, it cannot be appealed to a higher federal court in case of a loss at the state level. ▼

greater risk of developing the disease because this population has children less often and a higher probability of other risk factors. In the United States, it is estimated that breast cancer kills one woman every 12 minutes.

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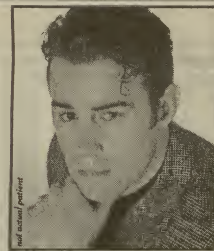
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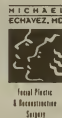
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UCSF Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Unit  
(415) 514-0550, ext. 353**

## AEF

◀ page 4

access screening programs or afford health care. A recent study showed that up to 20 percent of lower-income women in California are not even covered by Medicare. Lesbians in particular may face a



# Zambia's president draws fire for questioning the use of condoms

by S. Predrag

Zambian President Frederick Chiluba has questioned the use of condoms in the fight against AIDS. According to him, "It [the use of condoms] is a sign of weak morals on the part of the user."

This statement immediately provoked criticism from many AIDS activists and some scientists, while a leading daily, the *Post of Zambia*, wrote that, "It is worrying to hear the head of state preaching against the use of the condom."

"I don't believe in condoms myself because it is a sign of weak morals on the part of the user," claimed President Chiluba addressing members of his ruling party – the Movement for Multi-party Democracy – at a meeting held in Kabwe, a mining town north of the capital city, Lusaka.

Although he admitted that, "Our graveyards are now bigger than our compounds because of HIV/AIDS," Chiluba told Zambians to refrain from casual sex instead of relying on the use of condoms as a protective measure.

"If you cannot abstain from casual sex then try to regulate yourself," said the president. In fact, Chiluba's wife left him late last year after she was allegedly involved in an extra-marital affair.

Chiluba, who proclaimed Christianity as the state religion, publicly questioned his compatriots as to why they would buy condoms when they knew that it would lead them to risk HIV/AIDS infection.

"We find President Chiluba's

"It is worrying and in fact frightening to look at Zambia's high HIV/AIDS figures and hear the head of state not helping the situation by preaching against the use of the condom," said the editorial.

Former President Kenneth

Kaunda, whose son died of AIDS, insisted that people must use condoms. "Even within families, condoms can be used to control births."

"AIDS is a merciless killer that knows no boundaries. ... It is killing millions around the world

half a million AIDS orphans (one in three is living with AIDS).

The Catholic Church in Zambia has used every opportunity to voice its condemnation of the use of condoms as immoral and has even expressed its outrage at HIV/AIDS awareness advertisements, especially those aired on television.

However, Health Minister Enoch Kavindele warned church leaders about "the high prospects of preaching to an empty church, unless we face the reality that the situation at hand is unprecedented."

"The church is blind in one eye because this issue of abstinence cannot easily help reduce HIV infections," said Society for Family Health Executive Director Nils Gade, who pointed out that HIV/AIDS is striking married couples as well.

It is expected that the debate on the use of condoms may continue, but activists can only hope that Zambians will take heed of the *Post's* final comment that, "Little protection [condoms] is definitely better than no protection at all." ▼

**Chiluba admitted that, "Our graveyards are now bigger than our compounds because of HIV/AIDS." He told Zambians to refrain from casual sex instead of relying on the use of condoms as a protective measure. "If you cannot abstain from casual sex then try to regulate yourself," said the president.**

statement [on condoms] as being out of touch with reality which should raise worry among all," said the *Times of Zambia* in its editorial.

While the condom may not be 100 percent safe, wrote the paper, it at least offers a high percentage of protection from contracting sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

In the absence of a real cure for AIDS, most scientists agree that the use of condoms, AIDS awareness, and abstaining from casual sex remain the best options in order to avoid infection.

Kaunda, who ruled Zambia from its independence in 1964 until 1991 when Chiluba came to power, recently said that Africa could conquer the spread of AIDS by fighting "the wall of silence about the epidemic" and raising AIDS awareness in every single village.

– black, white, yellow, whatever their color, race, or religion," said Kaunda.

It is officially estimated that 650,000 people have already died of AIDS in Zambia. One million Zambians or over a fifth of the total adult population are HIV-positive, while there are more than

## Mbeki didn't keep his promise

by S. Predrag

South African President Thabo Mbeki, who had earlier said that he would not publicly discuss the cause of AIDS, claims that there was no agreement among a panel of scientists "that the thing that is being tested is a virus."

According to Mbeki, it was unclear whether HIV tests gave an indication of the presence of a virus or whether "they measure antibodies to something to which the immune system is responding."

During his recent visit to Brazil, Mbeki told a local newspaper in Brasilia that he had set up a panel of scientific advisers to try to find an answer to all the "unresolved" issues surrounding HIV/AIDS.

In that interview, Mbeki not only questioned the validity of the HIV tests, but once again expressed his doubts about the existence of a specific AIDS virus.

His advisory panel consisted of 33 scientists and other experts from 14 countries. The panel was scheduled to deliver its final report last November. However, it has been reported that the document will be released this month.

Well-informed sources claim that this report will probably contain an overview of the various panel reports without allying itself to either side of the debate.

If this proves to be the case, Mbeki's government, which financed the controversial panel of mainstream and dissident scientists, will probably try to calm its critics by claiming that so many issues remain unresolved.

Mainstream scientists categorically insist that they have never had any doubts that HIV causes



President Thabo Mbeki

AIDS. They feel that their debate with the AIDS dissidents, a vocal minority, ended almost two decades ago.

President Mbeki, known for "flirting" with U.S. dissident AIDS scientists such as Peter Duesberg and David Rasnick as well as those from other countries, is claiming that a single virus (such as HIV) cannot cause a syndrome or, in this case, the acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

He was heavily criticized last July in Durban, South Africa, during the 13th International Conference on AIDS for insisting that, "We cannot blame everything on a single virus ... poverty is the underlying cause of reduced life expectancy."

These are precisely the arguments frequently cited by dissidents who prefer to blame poverty, malnutrition, poor hygiene and, even, the use of drugs for the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

At one point, Mbeki even accused the U.S., its Central Intelligence Agency, and some multinational drug companies, of alleged-

ly conspiring to impose the view that HIV causes AIDS.

In particular, he insisted that questioning the link between HIV and AIDS was harming the interests of big pharmaceutical companies and warned that criticism of his AIDS viewpoint was "a foretaste of foreign attempts to undermine [his] government."

However, his predecessor, Nelson Mandela, maintains that he favors the "dominant opinion that prevails throughout the world" that HIV is the cause of AIDS.

Mandela even advised Mbeki that, "I would like to be careful because for people in our position, when you take a stand, you might find that established principles are undermined, sometimes without scientific backing."

Former Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda, has also criticized Mbeki's viewpoint. Recently he said that this type of controversial stance was undermining African efforts to stop the disease which is killing 6,000 people daily on this continent.

Mbeki's advisory panel, which has an almost equal number of mainstream and dissident scientists, has met twice, once in May and once in July last year, in South Africa.

While it is possible that Mbeki and his government may use the advisory panel's report in a desperate attempt to improve their public relations rating in the domestic scene, the harsh reality for South Africa is that this "flirting" with the "flat-earthists" has already harmed the AIDS awareness campaign, some activists claim. Not only in South Africa, a country which has 4.2 million HIV-positive people (a figure which is increasing daily by 1,600 new cases), but also in other countries on this continent. ▼

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# Possible AIDS efforts in a Bush administration

by Bob Roehr

What will federal AIDS efforts look like in a Bush administration? The president-elect was virtually silent on HIV/AIDS issues as governor of Texas. His written responses on the subject during the campaign were supportive but generic in content. The overwhelming majority of people working in the AIDS "industry" have a liberal political bent and fear the worst from the conservative.

The *AIDS Policy & Law* newsletter speculated in late November that Bush would eliminate the Office of National AIDS Policy, often referred to as the "AIDS czar," and the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. That prompted calls to several of the leaders in the field, who offered their predictions and recommendations for the new administration.

"The Bush family takes loyalty to a whole new level," said Steve Gunderson in explaining how to deal with the new regime. The former congressman from Wisconsin was among those openly gay Republicans who met with Bush in Austin last April. He has maintained contact with the campaign and transition efforts.

"Bush does not like to be shot at," said Gary Rose, a New York lobbyist and activist who spends much time in Washington. "Publicly embarrassing Clinton often was the only way to get anything done. But I think that with Bush it is going to be finding the politically smart way to get in, make your case as well as possible, build support on both sides of the aisle, and then maybe you will get your stuff done. In terms of AIDS funding, that is going to work okay."

The appointment of Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson to be secretary of Health and Human Services did much to allay fears in the area of AIDS. Thompson has been very supportive on issues of AIDS care, but less so in the area of prevention, said Christopher LaBonte, health policy analyst with the Human Rights Campaign.

Most AIDS advocates believe that prevention activities have been under-funded for the last several years. Political restrictions and mandates for abstinence-only programs limit the effective use of funds that are available. That seems unlikely to change. The solution, according to some, will be to better use a mix of state, local, and private funding for some of those activities.

"I don't think that we have much to worry about in terms of legislation," said Anne Donnelly, director of public policy with Project Inform.

Gunderson thinks that the Republican administration will do more "indirectly through non-profits and community-based organizations." That is the approach Thompson took in Wisconsin. There also may be more flexibility for states to try their own initiatives with federal money.

## Leadership

One big question is leadership. "We have an epidemic that can still threaten our society," said Cornelius Baker, executive director of the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C. "Part of the challenge for the United States is not only how we deal with the epi-

demic in our own country, but what role do we play in alleviating this around the world.

"The presidency is not about being an administrator, the presidency is about setting a direction and priorities for the nation," said Baker. Research priorities remain the same, a cure and a preventative vaccine. "If we can't implement it with 90 percent of those affected by HIV, then it is not a viable medical solution."

He sees the domestic agenda as focusing on "how to sustain an infrastructure for people in care while further reducing new infections." One component of that may be to encourage states to expand Medicaid coverage to the disabled, including PWAs, something that Thompson pushed in Wisconsin.

"We've done the easy part," said Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS. An estimated 300,000 to 500,000 Americans are HIV-positive but do not know it. The hard work that remains, officials said, is to bring those people into a system of health care so that they learn their HIV status and have access to appropriate care.

The epidemic is expanding most rapidly in communities of color. Anderson added, "The leadership of the African American and Latino communities are not going to allow that to fester." Their reticence to push Clinton will evaporate with a Republican in the White House, "They won't be afraid to label it a civil rights issue and fight it on that basis."

Internationally, sub-Saharan Africa is destabilizing socially and economically, while Asia and Eastern Europe are traveling down that same path, said Baker. He pointed to the American Revolution as an example of how "a couple of hundred thousand people in what was then a backwater of the world" ultimately had "a profound effect" on history. He believes "the president has to be engaged in more than just an ad hoc way."

"When the invasion of Kosovo needed to happen, Congress voted \$21 billion overnight, without question. We acted up," said Anderson. Today, when an epidemic is only an airplane flight away and can be introduced to this country just as quickly, "we are arguing over \$300 million a year for AIDS. We can do more and we should be doing more."

## AIDS czar

"I think it would be a mistake to abolish the Office of National AIDS Policy because it provides useful staff for an important national problem," said Jim Driscoll, HIV lobbyist for the Log Cabin Republicans. There also are purely political reasons to maintain the office. He added, "You need someone there to handle the press and take the brunt of the criticism," shielding the White House at least to some degree.

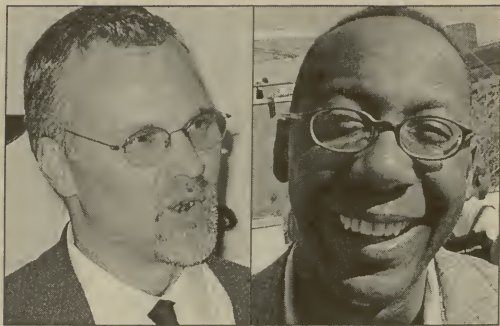
"By getting rid of it, you run the risk of making it look like you don't care about the issue," said Anderson. The administration needs to figure out avenues for input from the community and from experts. It needs a place where the disparate threads from agencies within HHS, the Departments of Housing and Justice, and the international sphere are pulled together and integrated into a cohesive policy.

The important question for Anderson is the resources behind it. The office "is not viable with three staff people and no resources, no authority," which is what Sandy Thurman had to work with for most of her tenure. He thinks that a staff of 10-12 would be sufficient. It should remain within the White House organizational chart rather than HHS because of growing activity on the international side.

Baker and Gunderson are among the names most prominently churning through the rumor mill for the position of czar. We have "a moral obligation in the fight against AIDS," said Gunderson, who added that he would feel an obligation to serve in the administration if asked. His personal and professional relationship with Secretary-designate Thompson, dating from 1974, would only enhance his clout in the position. But that personnel decision likely is months away, perhaps not until early summer.

## Presidential advisory council

"It was ridiculously large, it was unwieldy. It was like, okay, how many people can we say served with the president, it will make them feel good." This evaluation came from Ben Schatz, someone in a unique position to know. He was a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on



Terje Anderson and Cornelius Baker

HIV/AIDS and former executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. A change in careers gives him ample freedom to speak his mind.

Schatz said that PACHA "managed to be enough of a pain in the ass that we pushed [the Clinton administration] to do what they might not have done otherwise simply because it was not politically convenient or because there were other focuses." But he also acknowledged, "A council like this is never going to get an administration to do things that it fundamentally opposes."

He sees Bush's record on AIDS as creating "more of a need" to maintain such a body. Its size and frequency of meeting was "a waste of money and a waste of time." Both could be reduced substantially, said Schatz.

Log Cabin's Driscoll concurred. He said that eliminating the body "would provide an excuse, and a fairly valid one, for attacking the Bush administration." But the 35-member body "could be cut down in size a great deal."

NAPWA's Anderson continues

to sit on PACHA. While he applauds the "diversity of representation" on the body, "it was always frustrating to me how few of the council members had ever had any role in administering, planning, or running in any form, any of these [HIV/AIDS] programs."

He would like to see the council retained, perhaps with a smaller membership, and definitely with more attention paid to having specific expertise among the members. He also would like to see the White House say, "Okay, we are really wrestling with this issue, you guys take six months and chew it over and come back with something." The Clinton administration did not do that. Anderson believes "that is an important piece of how [an advisory council] is taken seriously within an administration."

Baker puts the question of an AIDS council in rather stark terms: "Do we need a Presidential Council on Physical Fitness but not one on AIDS?" His answer is that "AIDS is something that requires presidential leadership." ▼



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# Constructing a viable treatment option

by Matt Sharp, Survive AIDS Writers Pool

The disparaging news from my doctor was to be expected: My latest phenotype test, a blood test which shows how much the HIV in my body has mutated, was the worst he'd ever seen. In fact, he said, the test had to be run several times because the mutations were off the map and could not be read by the technicians. It wasn't really surprising to me; since 1989 I have been on all but one anti-HIV drug. I knew that I was not responding well to the armament of drugs available today. My CD4 cell count, after being stable for five years, had begun to drop. Plus, I knew that my virus levels were rising. I feared multiple drug failure and an ultimate virus victory.

Even though I had slowed HIV for 10 years with various combinations of the imperfect drugs, I was forced to once again come up

with a new plan. I had been searching for an easier, more tolerable combination of some of the newer drugs because I was tired of the relentless popping of over 20 pills a day. I was weary of the constant bowel changes, nausea, and insomnia from my current regimen. I needed at least two new drugs, preferably three to come up with a new, viable treatment option that would once again buy me more time. Adding just one anti-HIV drug to older drugs I was now resistant to would be like taking a single drug. Fortunately, several new drugs are now available for people with my dilemma. However, getting access to the drugs would prove to be troublesome. I soon realized it is just as difficult to obtain new drugs today as it was in the earlier days of the epidemic.

One new drug, Kaletra, a protease inhibitor, was recently approved and thankfully a prescription from my doctor would ensure I get my hands on it. An easy choice, given current positive data on the effectiveness of the drug, and I knew it was one protease inhibitor I had not burned up. The other drugs I needed are not yet approved and adding them to my new combination has been a painful process of persuasion, deliberation, and stressful anticipation. Even though the desperation to get new drugs is not the same as it was even five years ago, the companies have come up with clinical trial and program designs that are not always in the best interest of the patients most in need. As usual, the companies have their own concerns with drug development.

T-20, one very hopeful drug that would make up the foundation of my new plan is going to be available in a Phase III clinical trial in early January at several sites across the country. The open label study hopes to enroll 525 pa-

tients, two-thirds of whom will receive T-20 plus optimal background therapy. One-third will be the control or placebo arm receiving only background therapy without T-20. The drug is important and has shown promise in people with drug resistant virus. But because it is only available in a study and not a broader expanded access, patients must fit a stricter criterion and risk drawing the dreaded placebo. The criteria will not allow new experimental drugs in the background regimen, which leaves out a broad number of patients that the trial was meant to research. Participants are also not allowed to stop their current regimen before the study, which could mimic the promising treatment interruption strategy. I would barely qualify for this study even though my background options were almost used up, and I could not stop my current drugs before the study, giving me a clean slate, so to speak. And, most depressing was the fact that I

would risk the chance of receiving a placebo.

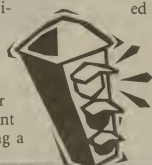
The third possible drug that would make up part of my plan is Gilead's Tenofovir. The new drug is slightly better and less toxic — thus far — than Gilead's earlier drug, Adefovir, which was recently denied approval by the FDA. Unfortunately, the Tenofovir expanded access program, does not allow patients over 100 CD4 counts and less than 10,000 virus copies. Requiring a specific CD4 count and viral load virtually turns the program into a clinical trial, not an expanded access. Years ago, activists pressured drug companies to stop using a finite number to limit enrollment, and allow the programs to benefit those most in need. But Gilead learned a painful lesson with its expensive Adefovir expanded access program, where thousands of people received the free drug only later to be denied approval by the FDA. The reason Gilead gives for breaking the important inclusion precedent is the apparent lack of drug supply. They promise to expand enrollment criteria later on when they see how the program

enrolls, but this will not help someone in my shoes who may need a viable treatment option to go along with T-20 today. The Tenofovir program will be large in scope, serving the U.S. and France initially, then other European countries and Canada.

It's a very different time today in gaining access to experimental anti-HIV drugs. Despite less desperation to get the new drugs for people with fewer options, the drug access programs are simply not what they used to be. Activist negotiations and constant pressure have only forced imperfect programs for people with few options. The definition of "constructing a viable treatment option" has sadly changed as activists become less involved in the fight, and a more seasoned drug industry is able to have its way.

For more information on the Gilead Tenofovir program call 1-800-GILEAD5. The company urges waiting until the third week of January to call this number.

For site information on the Phase III T-20 study call Trimeris in Durham, North Carolina at (919) 490-4631. ▼



Survive AIDS

Participants are also not allowed to stop their current regimen before the study, which could mimic the promising treatment interruption strategy. I would barely qualify for this study even though my background options were almost used up, and I could not stop my current drugs before the study, giving me a clean slate, so to speak. And, most depressing was the fact that I

## DPH releases 1999 statistics on STD rates

by Terry Beswick

The San Francisco Department of Public Health reports that the city achieved all the original objectives established by the federal government for controlling sexually transmitted diseases in 1999, except for the overall chlamydia rate. The goals were outlined in the federal document, "Healthy People for the Year 2000."

Early syphilis cases increased from 40 to 44 cases from 1998 to 1999 — still near the lowest reported levels reported for the disease since 1955. DPH collects sexual orientation data for early syphilis cases, and approximately 70 percent of 1999 cases were among gay and bisexual men.

However, according to preliminary data from last year, there were 69 total early syphilis cases recorded through the month of November, according to the monthly STD

report recently issued by DPH.

Reported gonorrhea cases decreased by 12.8 percent from 1998 to 1999 — also near the lowest level recorded for this disease since 1955, said DPH researchers.

Through November 2000, there were 1,965 gonorrhea cases recorded in San Francisco for the year, compared to 1,456 in 1999. One hundred seventy-nine of the cases recorded through November of last year were male rectal gonorrhea, while 145 were male rectal cases in 1999.

The San Francisco Sexually Transmitted Disease Annual Summary for 1999, published last November, also reported that chlamydia cases increased by 4.7 percent from 1998, but many of these cases were asymptomatic infections detected through increased screening of men. The prevalence of chlamydia among women screened at prevalence monitoring sites declined by 10 percent between 1998 and 1999, suggesting that there

was a decline in prevalence of chlamydia among women in San Francisco, according to Charlotte Kent, chief epidemiologist at DPH Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention and Control Services.

"The distribution of gonorrhea cases by age, gender, and neighborhood suggests that there are two different populations most heavily affected by gonorrhea in San Francisco. The first population includes young men and women in the southeastern sector of the city, where the rates are similar for men and women. This suggests that these persons are part of a primarily heterosexual network," Kent noted matter-of-factly in the November STD report. "In contrast, gonorrhea rates for males are highest in and around the Castro District, where rates for women are very low. Men with gonorrhea in this area are older than in the southeastern sector of the city with a peak incidence of 30-34 years. The Castro is the area in San Francisco with greatest concentration of men who have sex with men (MSM). These data suggest that men with gonorrhea in this area belong to a sexual network of MSM."

Kent added that because sexual orientation is not a legally reportable demographic, geographic and other demographic data were used to make inferences about rates for men who have sex with men and heterosexuals.

The 1999 report also suggests that because syphilis cases are focused in the center of the city among older males, these cases are also "primarily in a MSM sexual network." Sexual orientation is collected for early syphilis cases as part of partner management efforts; during 1999, 35 of the 44 patients with early syphilis (80 percent) were MSM.

STD reports are available at the DPH Web site at [www.dph.sf.ca.us](http://www.dph.sf.ca.us). To receive a copy by mail, call Leona Holbert at (415) 554-8450. ▼

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### Mission: Possible

◀ page 5

plained. "I haven't been that open about that until recently. And it was my inability to deal with these issues that led to the projection of my self hatred onto others."

Ruth Morgan, the executive director of Community Works, which offers art classes to people in the San Francisco county jail, said there were no typical experiences during the project, but that a lot of participants were able to recognize their inherent similarities.

"A restorative justice program starts in custody and continues post-release, and for violent offenders it's based on the premise that their crime was not against the state but against people — victims, survivors, the community," said Morgan. "It is up to the ex-offender to restore himself and the community, and the arts are one way to

bring all these people together."

The final panel of Moskowitz's portrait says, "I offer restoration," and while he may never be able to directly affect those that he harmed, he is able to help others who have been victims, and that gives him a sense of purpose.

"Opening night had a really big impact on me. The fact that 400 people showed up told me that this community really needs restoration," he said. "And knowing that I'm doing my part to heal the community is really overwhelming." ▼

"Mission: Possible" is at the Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission Street (at 24th), through March 31. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A small donation is requested at the gallery entrance.



## OBITUARIES

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Ronald Dana Green



Ronald Dana Green was "positive but not negative." He was born in Fresno, California on October 18, 1949. He died peacefully at home in San Francisco, California on December 29, 2000

after a long and courageous battle with AIDS. He is survived by his parents,

three sisters and their spouses, a half brother, nine nieces and nephews and four great nieces and nephews.

Ron held people spellbound as the character, Pan, at the Renaissance Fairs for many moons. He loved country-western music and dancing and could 32 step with the best. He performed with the Saddle Tramps and often kicked up his heels at The Rawhide. Ron was a graphic artist at Falcon Associates in Brisbane, California. He was also an accomplished inversion artist.

He put Versaci to shame with his creative gift for turning a piece of fabric into an elegant gown in seconds. This talent, along with his many other gifts and abilities, brought smiles, laughter and great joy to all who were blessed to have known Ron. Please help us keep Ron's memory alive by visiting his web-site at [www.geocities.com/ronalddana](http://www.geocities.com/ronalddana). Family and friends will be checking the message board periodically.

Donations Ron's memory may be made to Under One Roof, 549 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114

## George Robert Hanson



George Robert Hanson passed away from complications due to AIDS on January 3, 2001, surrounded by his loving family and friends. He was born on June 20, 1960 in Ellensburg, Washington to

Mary Elizabeth Kerr Hanson, and grew

up in Idaho Falls, Idaho. George always loved cities and left Idaho Falls ("blew this one-horse town," as he put it) for Chicago as a young man. In 1990 he moved to San Francisco where he found a loving home and many friends with whom he shared his tremendous sense of humor and joy for life.

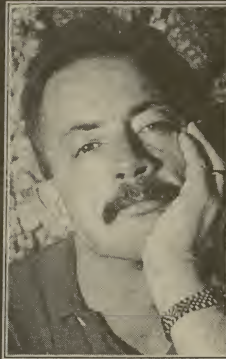
George (aka "Gigi") had a life-long passion for cars, architecture, classic passenger ocean liners, travel, and promoting AIDS awareness and Gay acceptance. He participated in many clinical trials for AIDS treatments and was involved in numerous research initiatives, knowing all the while that he would probably not survive to see the cure, but that he would be a soldier in the fight. He was upbeat and optimistic until the end, refusing to yield to his disease and self-pity. He was a model of courage and integrity for all who knew him.

George is mourned by his beloved partner Daniel Hayes, sisters Stella Jacobsen and Elaine Fullmer of Idaho Falls and Tarina Sommer of Salem, Oregon; and many cherished friends. He was preceded in death by his adored mother, Mary. All of us are grateful to all the caretakers who worked with us, but especially to Georgeanne Reiss and David Cardenas, who sustained us through the last few days.

Cremation will take place in San Francisco with George's ashes to be blessed at Mass and scattered at sea at a later date. There will be no formal memorial services, but the family invites all who know George to celebrate his life in their own way. Please send donations to Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109.

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May 2, 1960 - December 18, 2000



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Please join a celebration of Bob's life, to honor and share his many accomplishments and relationships.

3:30p.m., Saturday, January 13, 2001

Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Ocean Beach is located across the street from the Beach Chalet, where Fulton Street meets The Great American Highway. Please bring a blanket if you wish to sit.

Anyone wishing to participate in the program with words, a story, a song or other tribute is most welcome. Please call 415-399-8523 to let us know so we can include you in the program.

Contributions in Bob's honor should be directed to Under One Roof, 549 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, 415-503-2303

## Activists hope to see NGLTF 'create change'

by Katie Szymanski

More than two months after a disturbing incident and one month after an open letter calling for some serious changes at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, community activists are still waiting to see how NGLTF Executive Director Elizabeth Toldeo will restructure the organization's annual Creating Change conference to be more inclusive.

It was November of 2000 when the conference, held in Atlanta, featured a workshop about interracial adoption as it pertained to Caucasian folks adopting kids of color. The first thing most people in attendance noticed was that the presentation was given by an all-white panel. Then, when people of color – particularly those who had experienced interracial adoption themselves – wanted to give their perspective, they were silenced, and admonished for "not going through the proper channels," according to the letter of complaint mailed to NGLTF on December 4.

"They were shut down pretty quickly," Sara Leedom, a woman

in attendance at the workshop, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "And when a bunch of people started to protest that exclusion, they were of course labeled 'disruptive.'"

It gets worse, unfortunately. At the closing plenary, according to witnesses, the issue was dealt with by people of color being asked not to speak.

"The conflicts were deferred to a white woman to interpret," said Leedom, "which has always been a white privilege."

The open letter to NGLTF – drafted and signed by white LGBT people who were horrified by the display – was answered, quite simply, by an open letter in return, the full text of which can be found on NGLTF's Web site, [www.nglft.org](http://www.nglft.org). And while the drafters of the letter of complaint feel that the response is a good first step, they believe it doesn't begin to address what changes will be made to ensure that such an incident won't happen again.

"The letter basically cites all the programs that NGLTF has in place. And they're great programs, but unfortunately, those programs were in place before the incident," said Leedom.

"There's a general disappointment and frustration that the task force had no foresight to make a space for people of color in this workshop, to allow for their experiences to be validated within the queer community."

The issue is no doubt a difficult one for Toledo, a Latina who took over NGLTF's head post last year amid criticism that she had only been a lesbian for a short period of time. NGLTF, always the more progressive of the national groups, also seemed to be getting too cozy with the more conservative Human Rights Campaign once Toledo took office.

For now, Creating Change attendees are willing to give Toledo the benefit of the doubt, citing her openness to discussion. But they're still waiting for concrete solutions to the problems that allowed exclusion to occur.

"We want to see a change of structure. They need to make sure workshops like this don't happen in such an irresponsible way," said Leedom. "From everything we've seen there's been no plan of action and that what we're interested in. The real test will be in the future." ▼

## Ammiano

◀ page 1

forced hundreds of tenants out of their rental housing, including many people living with HIV/AIDS.

Other issues that the board will likely work on include addressing dot-com development and other growth-related issues, such as live-work lofts. Development was a hot-button issue during the November elections. Growth control advocates saw their Proposition L, a slow-growth measure, narrowly lose at the polls, as well as Mayor Brown's less restrictive Proposition K.

Leno said that he will work on several projects, including some that he started last year. As for continuing projects, Leno listed the transgender task force that was established last year, and in particular one big thing the task force would like to see changed is getting the city's health policy to cover transgender care.

Other projects include ongoing efforts to pass affordable housing

legislation and getting the queer young adult housing facility at 2500 Market Street up and running. "We will be very attentive to 2500 Market Street as it goes forward," Leno said.

Another issue of importance to the LGBT community, Leno said, is the drug abuse problem, especially crystal methamphetamine. "I want to continue to attend to health issues, including harm reduction; I'm holding a hearing on crystal meth, which I hear continues to be a problem in the community."

Regarding some citywide concerns, Leno said he will continue with his proposal to implement revenue control procedures at the city's parking lots. Currently, there is no mechanism for "proof of payment" at some city lots, and the city is supposed to receive a 25 percent tax on parking fees. While that has generated about \$48 million in parking tax revenue, Leno said there may be as much as \$20 million in tax revenue that is not being collected. The parking lot tax revenue is divided up with 40

percent going to Muni, another 40 percent to the general fund, and 20 percent for senior services. "We may be able to augment senior services," Leno said. "The parking industry, of course, is not thrilled."

Ammiano also told the *B.A.R.* that he sees "a new day" dawning at City Hall. He said that he was "gratified" at the full support he had from his colleagues who elected him board president. Ammiano is now involved with assigning his fellow board members to various committees, a process he hopes to have completed by the next board meeting.

In terms of issues Ammiano would like to see addressed, he immediately mentioned development.

"People in general on the board have development issues, and we will be working together real soon," Ammiano said, adding that addressing such ideas as "smart growth" and zoning would be a priority. "Health care is another one," Ammiano said. "There are issues around San Francisco General Hospital." ▼



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For more information, call Dr. Mark Jacobson  
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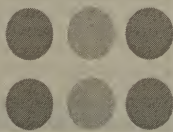
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# Ego-cam

by Jim Provenzano

On February 3, Vince McMahon will unleash the XFL (eXtreme Football League?) on NBC (Naturally Beholden to Conglomerates).

BFD (Big Frickin' Deal)? NSF (Not So Fast).

Vincent Caesar has assembled an excessive gladiatorial combat arena for monetary gain and all the perks.

Not unlike an arrogant emperor of another civilization in decline, and gone slightly mad by drinking water from those lead pipes. In our renaissance a la WWF, it's lead pipes. Swung lead pipes.

After building the backwoods joke version of a real sport into a global empire spawning many other corporate contenders (thanks mostly to visionary and sailing enthusiast Ted Turner), Vinnie's branched out only a year after announcing his move out of the ring and onto the Astroturf.

Since we've all been barraged with the basic hype, let's get to the potentially gay situation, since with the amount of butt and boob shots on WWF rivaling a steroid strip show, the XFL is not forbidding relationships between cheerleaders and players.

No word on the relationships allowed between players, or their coaches and trainers.

But along with a luridly heterosexual promise of bouncing cheerleaders and helmet-cams is the promise of male locker-cams. Yes, guys and gals, this will be an equal opportunity exploiter.

Of course, after plunking down \$100 million for half ownership of the crush-o-rama, you'd think NBC would take a message from Showtime regarding the human body and its televised depiction. This must have what they were saving their money for when they cut corners at the Olympics, B-grade pigskin.

No doubt NBC, with its penchant for waist-up only shots through all the male portions of other athletic events, won't be showing what European news reports often allow, cinematography on the order of *Any Given Sunday*.

The major media's sucking up to the XFL's hype with a smirk and full page cover stories. Investors are sniffing back on the trail after WWF's stock tanked, then rose around the time of Vince's prognostications.

A year later, he's serving it up,

no matter the constant reminder that the players are mostly NFL wannabes. At least they mostly went to college. XFL will become the Saturday night stay-at-home for the youth market so desperate for more role

models like the Maniacs, the Hitmen, the Devils, and the Rage, and other great designs, girlfriends.

*Business 2.0*, whose lengthy feature treats this potential boondoggle or the downfall of western sports as we know it, shows a rather busy stud on its cover. He's just one of the many players who's been hired at half off the usual NFLer. With probably an even looser prior arrest filter, no doubt what pranks these dudes can get up to.

Past scandals at the WWF involve buckets of steroids, butt grabs and sexual harassment lawsuits, and more than a few mysterious deaths (Rick Rude, Owen Hart, to name a few). Despite fatalities and the disintegration of many pro wrestling performers, ("Beyond the Mat" the fat lady sung), the show goes loudly on.

The winning, or perhaps surviving, franchise in this eight-team factory splits a \$1 million. Players get extra for doing well on — and off — the field. With current interactive game technologies replicating these ubber-jocks to a T, viewers won't be able to tell the difference between Nintendo and NBC.

If any personalities evolve out of this the way WWF has manufactured its hulking actors as toys, punch bags, lunch boxes, and heavy competition in my Amazon.com category, no doubt a whole new set of sluggers will encroach on other sports. Hockey's already there. They just fling sticks instead of chairs.

Our suggestion to capture the adult gay audience for XFL?

Translucent tights, male cheerleaders, and lots and lots of locker room cambots. If not that, then at least a lot more lengthy butt shots. That seems to be what wows 'em at the gay bars that show football. Oh, yeah. Winning helps.

One of the more increasing complaints thrown at visiting teams toward their hosts are the ear-splitting anthems and explosions that clutter up current NFL games.

No doubt phallic pyrotechnics will play a larger role in this regressive cultural creation than the real thing. Bombast over ball playing translates to the TV quite well, and what with us all living in a coup d'état, why not throw rules

to the shredder?

Are there even going to be referees? Will they just dance around the action blowing whistles, as in McMahon's preferred form of sports entertainment? Won't betting on these games be like laying odds on a plot of *Passions*? Or will Vinnie prove us

wrong, that a concocted brood of college players can absorb a fandom before it exists, and that P.T. Barnum's saying about the sucker birth rate has increased — a lot.

XFL's SF Demons "competes" with the LA Extreme at PacBell Park, February 4.

### Hindenburger

On Tuesday, January 9, the XFL's \$2.5 million balloon crashed over Oakland's Oyster Reef Restaurant. The pilot and student pilot bailed out, and survived relatively uninjured. Grant Murray, the blimp's owner, blamed strong winds.

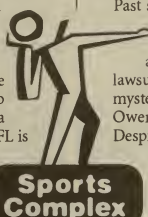
### His girl Friday

Powerhouse, that saucy gay biote, is sponsoring an evening of wrestling and fundraising to benefit the Golden Gate Wrestling Club, this Friday, January 12 from 9 p.m. to midnight, 1347 Folsom. (415) 552-8689. Wrestlers will show you the moves in freestyle and, ahem, other grappling styles, so all you voyeurs of the sport are welcome to drool to your heart's content. Just bring cash for the prizes. Once again, they are called singlets. Not togs. Not tights. Singlets.

### The getaway

San Francisco Track and Field is having its first team meeting on Sunday January 14 (Faye Dunaway's birthday, by the way), 2001 at Kezar Stadium in Golden Gate Park on Lincoln Avenue, San Francisco at 10 a.m. This meeting will not be a practice meeting just an information gathering meeting. Bagels and coffee will be available. Come and be part of the formation of the 2002 Gay Games VI track and field team and be a part of history.

For more information Call Marcus Valera @ (415) 564-1578. Call Faye Dunaway through the William Morris Agency. ▼



**Sports  
Complex**

## Is that a hammer in your pocket?

by Katie Szymanski

Girls with tool belts and guys with a passion for redecorating: they're onto you.

The San Francisco Public Library, with the help of former Supervisor Barbara Kaufman and the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners, last week launched a new tool lending program for all the home improvement and building projects you've ever dreamed about. The purpose of the center is to assist in the revitalization of neighborhoods, to support home ownership, encourage beautification of property, and

build community businesses. Okay, perhaps this program would have been nicer if it came in time for the massive LGBT immigration to the city. But with the housing crisis and skyrocketing rents, who can afford to buy a power drill every time the need arises? Take advantage of the Tool Lending Center, and put your savings away for other things.

The center, modeled after Berkeley's successful tool lending program that serves over 2,000 people a month, will initially carry about 1,000 tools, but the collection will be supplemented as necessary. Additionally, the center houses a vast collection of do-it-

yourself books, reference periodicals, and videos.

The Tool Lending Center is open Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Just like getting a library card, patrons must first register with the center before they can check stuff out; the only requirement is that they be San Francisco residents or property owners over the age of 18, so bring your identification.

The center is located at 2713 San Bruno Avenue, at Bacon, and can be reached at (415) 467-TOOL. For more information, check out the center's Web site at [www.toollending.org](http://www.toollending.org). ▼



## COMMUNITY HEALTH LISTINGS

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395 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

### ACT UP/SF

Committed to ending the AIDS scam through direct action. Public meeting 7:30pm every Monday at 1884 Market Street. Contact: 864-6686 or [www.actupsf.com](http://www.actupsf.com).

### Acupuncture

The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

### AIDS Support Group

Informal support group for gays and lesbians with Attention Deficit Disorder. Call Chuck, 282-7983.

### AIDS Community Research Consortium

Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

### AIDS Dementia CARE Unit

At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impairments. Call Stephen Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

### AIDS Emergency Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

### AIDS Health Project

Concerned about HIV, dating, sex, intimacy? Free individual and group counseling & support services for HIV-negative, HIV-positive, and untested gay and bisexual men. For info, call 476-3902.

### AIDS/HIV Nightline

Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

### AIDS Legal Referral Panel

Assists persons w/HIV on legal problems, incl. wills, powers of attorney, benefits, more. Free or reduced fee. 291-5454.

### AIDS Memorial Grove

Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

### AIDS Project of the East Bay

HIV education & prevention programs, case management, emotional & practical support for people in Alameda Co. 1755 Broadway, 2nd floor, Oakland, (510) 663-7979

### AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group

Meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 294 or 215.

### AIDS Support Group

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group provides practical, emotional, and, where desired, spiritual support for persons living with AIDS without regard to religious preference, age, race, gender, sexual preference, or disability. Volunteer training provided. For info or to volunteer, call (415) 863-1581.

### AIDS Treatment Education Network

Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strategies. 284-6237.

### Alternative Family Project

"We Are Family," on-going support group for gay men. Tues. & Thurs., 7pm. Call for no-fee intake. 436-9000.

### Alzheimer's Association

Free SF support groups: 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2-3:30pm. UCSF Mt. Zion Center on Aging, 3600 Geary Blvd. (Also, groups in Spanish, Chinese.) Info: 800-660-1993.

### ARIS

AIDS resources, information and services of Santa Clara county, drop-in support group meetings. 408-293-ARIS.

### Asians & Leather

Support group for gay Asian men who identify with leather. Info c/o Pacific Friends, PO Box 641008, or e-mail [kchoi415@aol.com](mailto:kchoi415@aol.com)

### Asians & Pacific Islanders with HIV

Weekly support group, activities, retreats, treatment info. API Wellness Center, 292-3400 x336.

### Baker Places

Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

### BAPHR

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights offers support services to med. students, physicians. 558-9353.

### Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

### Baylands Family Circle

Nonprofit group of families headed by gay, lesbian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for social. Call Tom, 858-2468.

### Bereavement Groups

For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

### Breast Cancer Action

Carries the voices of people affected by breast cancer to inspire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic. For info, call 243-9301.

### Brown Boys

Drop in group for gay/bi Latino men under 25, addressing HIV and other survival issues. Meets every Mon. at 6:30pm. PCPV, 2973 16th St. 864-7278.

### Buddhist AIDS Project

Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

### Cal-Pep

Dedicated to providing innovative HIV education, outreach, prevention, case management, HIV/hepatitis/STD testing, and substance abuse counseling in San Francisco and Alameda counties. For more info, contact California HIV Prevention & Education Project at 510-874-7850 or visit them at 405 14th Street in downtown Oakland. All services are free.

### Cancer Support Group

Based in San Francisco and offers a caregivers support group, a grief group, and counseling for cancer patients, their friends, and families. For info call Brian at 422-2137.

### Catholic Charities

Residential and direct HIV services include Guerrero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814 Mission. 281-1200.

### Center for Special Problems

Groups for people with HIV: Gay men's spirituality and healing group beginning 9/28; gay men's mid-life group beginning 9/27; heterosexual men's group beginning 9/28. Must call for times and to pre-register. 292-1521.

### Chemically Sensitive & HIV

Support group forming for those allergic to perfumes and chemicals. 922-1348.

### Clinica Esperanza

The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-5212.

### Coming out support group for women

Meets Weds, 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynn, 626-7000.

### Coming out support group for men

Meets Weds, 5:30-7pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kevin Pedretti. Info: 626-7000.

### Community United Against Violence

Provides services for LGBT victims of domestic violence and hate crimes. Also needs volunteer counselors on 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500. For emergency 24-hour crisis line, call 333-HELP.

### Comprehensive Outreach Project for Asian Substance Abusers

Reduced risk of HIV infection thru counseling and treatment referrals. Multilingual. 541-9404.

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Gay and lesbian Jewish synagogue. Services every Friday at 8:15pm. 290 Dolores Street at 16th Street. 861-6932.

### Connections

Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support focusing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of color. Free. Call 356-8114.

### Continuum HIV Day Services

An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, activities. 241-5500.

### Counseling Services for Drinking Drivers

Groups for gay men who are court- or DMV-mandated to attend a multiple offender program. Chemical Awareness & Treatment Services: 241-1187.

### Crystal Meth Anonymous

Meetings every: Wed., 8pm at The Meeting Place, 1874 Market; Sat., 9pm, and Sun., 6pm at 529 Clayton. Hotline: 267-5933.

### Davies Med. Center

Free classes for HIV+ people in Needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. info: 565-6369.

### Deaf AIDS Center

At UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

### Diabetics

Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

### Dimensions

Comprehensive health, mental health, and substance abuse services for LGBTQ youth ages 12-25 in a safe, supportive environment. Sliding scale based on income. No one is turned away. Every Thursday from 5 to 8pm at 3850 17th Street, at Pond, in the Castro. Drop-in or by appt. Call 487-7589.

### Dolores Street Comm. Services

Seeks volunteers to help homeless in shelters and people living with AIDS at the Richard M. Cohen Residence. For info or to volunteer call (415) 282-6209.

### Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

### East Bay HIV/AIDS 12 Step Support Group

Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon. eves., 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

### Eden I & R

Information & referral for AIDS/affordable housing. HIV service providers in Alameda Co. (510) 537-2600.

### Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services

Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. (650) 572-9702.

### Eureka Acupuncture & Yoga Center

Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

### FABRIC

A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

### Filipino Task Force on AIDS

Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Filipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS. 1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

### Full Circle Community Counseling

We offer low cost services which support, encourage, and challenge people to realize their unlimited potential. Take the step to go beyond the pain of your past to experience the freedom of you really are. Offices in SF and the East Bay. 255-0100.

### Gay Dads

Gather to talk about your kids, lovers, ex's, etc. Joel Wechsler, MFCC. Alternative Family Project. 436-9000.

### Gay Greeks

Support/social group for Greek-American gays and lesbians. Meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month. Call 551-1688 for location and time.

### Gay & Lesbian Asylum Project

Seeks volunteer to coordinate outreach to immigrants with asylum claims based on sexual orientation. Call Aaron Myers, 641-9276.

### Gay/Lesbian Christian Scientists

Sharing support, insight, metaphysical science. Meets 2nd Monday of month. Info: Craig, 281-0636.

### Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic

Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

### Gay Youth Spirit

A new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

### G40+ Club

A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

### Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project

Free, confidential Orasure HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12-3, 4-8pm. Case management, support groups. AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

### Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox

Outpatient, medical drug detox, and acute medical care, counseling, and HIV education. Free. Drop in Monday-Friday 11 am to 6 pm at 529 Clayton or call Hector, 565-1908.

### Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic

Confidential, free, client-centered HIV testing, provided conveniently in the evening at an accessible location. Test results are not kept on file. 487-5632

### Health Support Services

For PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Marin Treatment Center, 1466 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

### Hepatitis B Testing

And vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men. Free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

### Hepatitis C Helpline

Peer support for persons afflicted with Hep C. Call 834-4100.

### HIV Advocacy Network

Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foundation: phonefax tree action alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

### HIV Employment Rights Project

Legal advice and counseling for people with HIV about their rights in the workplace. Call 593-0035 in the Bay Area and (888) 864-0628 toll-free in California.

### HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction Program

Behavior change support group for gay & bi men, focus on speed injection & unsafe sex behaviors. Free. Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic, 1696 Haight. Call Bill or Bonnie, 565-1927.

### HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf

Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in services every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. 1853 Market St.

### HIVcare

Offers the latest clinical trials from community-based trial network, access to experimental treatments. Free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

### HIV Drop-In Groups

Co-ed for people with HIV. Wed., 8pm. Women with HIV. Tues., 10am. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1543.

### HIV Group

Weekly group for men with HIV/AIDS. Sixteen Wed. afternoons from 1-2:30pm. Free to SF residents. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1534.

### HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group

In the South Bay, meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, (408) 293-2747.

### HIV Negative Support Group

For gay and bisexual men offered by AIDS Health Project; free drop-in, time-limited and ongoing support groups. Info: 476-3902.

### HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group

Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 594-9121.

### HIV Sitting Group

Meditation for those with HIV, caregivers, friends. Tues., Thurs., Fri., 10:30am (beginners: 10:00am). Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. Info: 863-2507.

### HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

### Home Care Companions

Provides classes on how to care for a loved one living with AIDS or cancer. For next class sessions, info., call 824-3269.

### Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs

Provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.: 368-9989.

### Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

### Iris Center

Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

### Instituto Laboral de la Raza

Helps low income and unemployed workers with labor issues, union organizing, family support. 431-7522.

### Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project

Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

### Laguna Honda Hospital AIDS Unit

Provides compassionate care to PWAs who are SF residents in need of 24-hour nursing care. Call 664-1580.

### Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program

(LYFE) Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth. 565-7681.

### Last Drag Smoking Cessation

Free quit smoking class for LGBT & HIV-positive smokers. Quit smoking in a confidential and supportive group setting. Classes led by a highly skilled and experienced clinic leader certified by the American Lung Association. Voice mail: (415) 565-7672, ext. 351 or [www.lastdrag.org](http://www.lastdrag.org).

### Laughingstock

Free comedy improv workshop for people with HIV/AIDS, presented by Bay Area Theatersports. Call for sessions 474-8935.

### LeatherFuck

Small group workshops covering subjects of interest to leather and leather-curious men, as well as those involved with and exploring the SM scene. A chance to talk about fucking, roles, trust, community, safety, risk, and power. A workshop of the Stop AIDS Project. 575-0155.

### Legal Services for Children's H.O.P.E. Project

Provides social and legal services to low-income HIV affected families. Info: 863-3762.

### Lesbian/Gay Christian Scientists

Meets 2nd Monday of each month for healing, insight and support. Info: 281-0636, or (800) 280-6653.

### Lesbian Social Group

For lesbians and bisexual women in Tri-Cities/So. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at The Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. (510) 790-2887.

### Lesbian Support Groups

On mental health issues: peer counseling, support and referrals for SF residents. Call Connie, 552-0788.

### Lesbians with Cancer

12 week psycho-social support group at the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market. Classes are offered on a sliding scale basis. Call 565-7672 x370 to register.

### Línea de Ambiente

Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Celia Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM), 243-9534.

### Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center

Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.



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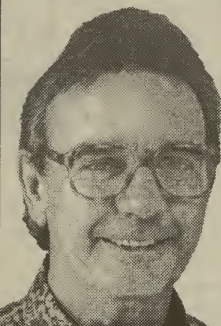
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496-6508 or frankdj@wjh.harvard.edu

### LEGAL NOTICES

**STATEMENT FILE NO.245682**  
The following person(s) are doing business  
as: Tatu, 1011 23rd Street #18, San  
Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is  
conducted by a corporation signed Maria  
Cleaveland. The registrant(s) commenced  
to transact business under the above listed  
fictitious business name or names on,  
12/29/00. The statement was filed with the  
City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on  
12/29/00.  
**JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

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### LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND  
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN  
FRANCISCO FILE NO. 317863

In the Matter of the Application of

Geoffrey Swearingen for Change of Name.

The application of Geoffrey Swearingen for

change of name, having been filed in Court,

and it appearing from said application that

Geoffrey Swearingen has filed an

application proposing that his name be

changed to Geoffrey Gray. Now therefore,

it is hereby ordered and directed, that all

persons interested in said matter do appear

before this Court in Department 218 on the

6th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock AM.,

of said day to show cause why the

application for change of name should not

be granted.

**JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**



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## HOT MEN FOR VIDEO

Grapik art needs men for video project. 10hrs pays \$1000. Ask for Chris noon to 7pm. 415-566-0122

## TECHNICIAN

To do job-site drug & alcohol testing. Position requires operating a computer using Windows 95/98 & driving a motorhome. Motorhome is suitable for fulltime living. Will train right persons. Fax resume to 510-237-4255

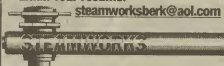
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The following person(s) are doing business as: Above & Beyond Marketing & Promotions, Max Goodman. 873 #B Sutter Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ross Kenneth Grossman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/03/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/03/01. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO.245696

The following person(s) are doing business as: In & Out Market & Liquors. 701 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Lourdes Reyes Yu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/02/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/02/01. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO.245700

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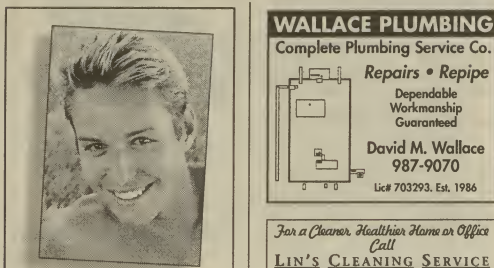
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The following person(s) are doing business as: Future of Email, 1261 Grove Street #6, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Begley Gesaci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/28/00. JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245554**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Magic Cleaners, 2395-42nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jose A. Chavez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/26/00. JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245544**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: BC Struxure, 25 Cervantes Blvd. #105, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bryce Mason. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 12/22/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/08/01. JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245871**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Eye Q Optometry, 4017 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kimberly Tom. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/28/00. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**STATEMENT FILE NO. 245647**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Viking Hairstyling, 380 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mary Jane Lloyd. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/28/00. JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**Quality Carpentry**Decks, Stairs  
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**Declaration of independents**  
In 3rd Annual IndieFest, content is still king;  
begins this weekend in San Francisco, Berkeley.  
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**'Shadow' dancing**  
John Malkovich stars in  
'Shadow of the Vampire.'  
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**Big game hunting**  
'Rhinoceros' bows at  
Theatre Rhinoceros.  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 2 • 11 January 2001

**Director Terence Davies charts Lily Bart's downfall in 'The House of Mirth'**



Terence Davies discusses a scene with Gillian Anderson as Lily Bart during the filming of *The House of Mirth*

## She's come undone

by David Lamble

It's not all that often that I throw my arms around a famous filmmaker, especially after not having laid eyes on him for 16 years, but then *The House of Mirth* director Terence Davies does not regard himself as all that special. "I don't feel famous, no I don't," Davies says. "Other people look like film directors, I look as though I'm in real estate, for God's sake. I go into a room full of people and I'm the only one I've never heard of. It's really depressing."

As a friend of mine likes to say at a particularly dishy moment in the conversation, "And there you are." And there I am indeed, standing in the middle of a pricey suite at the Hotel Prescott, sharing a laugh with a man in full command of his own absurdity. To spend an hour with Terence Davies is to be with a truly grown-up, serious person whose self-lacerating wit almost obscures his mission: to promote the most ambitious of the five films he's made in the past 25 years, and the only one to have attracted the tiniest amount of pre-Oscar buzz.

By the time she wrote *The House of Mirth* in 1905, Edith Wharton had a trophy marriage and a couple of nervous breakdowns under her belt. Encouraged by her mentor Henry James to "do New York! The first-hand account is precious," Wharton constructed a savage satire on New York's ruling elite that details the evisceration of a young woman of modest means at the hands of a "powerful oligarchy, whom Edith Wharton was very much part of, and knew, and obviously loathed!" The word loath comes out of Davies' mouth with the delight that many would reserve for devouring a truffle.

Davies warns to his subject as if the social piranhas of Wharton's mirthless world were his personal enemies. "These people are savages! Their *raison d'être* is money, position and what you look like... and in that kind of tyranny, how can there be humanity? Mirth, joy, happiness comes from humanity, and you can't have it unless you're compassionate."

### Tragic view

While Wharton got the American reading public of her day to swallow a tragedy without a happy ending, Davies doubts that today's filmgoers would stomach parts of Wharton's world view "which actually disfigure the novel — the anti-Semitism has to go." Wharton's heroine Lily Bart (Gillian Anderson) is undone when she discovers that she can't bring herself to marry either for money or love. The only character who offers Lily any real compassion is the Jewish financier Sim Rosedale. In the novel, Rosedale is described as blond and a man damned by the "the instincts of his race... to suffer rebuffs." In the film, Davies assigns the dark-haired Anthony LaPaglia the role of blunting the derision felt for Rosedale by the likes of Wharton. "Those people who do not know the book always say, 'Of course, Rosedale's Jewish, isn't he?'" Davies says. "And I say, 'Yes,' which gets the point over without being crude or offensive."

Asked why he's drawn to a writer so trapped by the narrow conventions of her society's view of race and class, Davies notes that Wharton's ability to spin a modern tragedy in "ravishing English" makes up for her other sins, but most important for him is a talent he feels she shares with Anton Chekhov. "Chekhov is about small things happening which have huge implications."

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**Bob Mackie dresses Kathleen Turner in 'Tallulah'**

## Designing women

by Richard Dodds

When Carol Burnett recently returned to Broadway in *Putting It Together*, who got the call to design her gown?

When Ann-Margret soon hits the road in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, who will be deciding what madam will wear?

When Liza Minnelli still wanted to sparkle despite her hefty proportions, who solved that design dilemma?

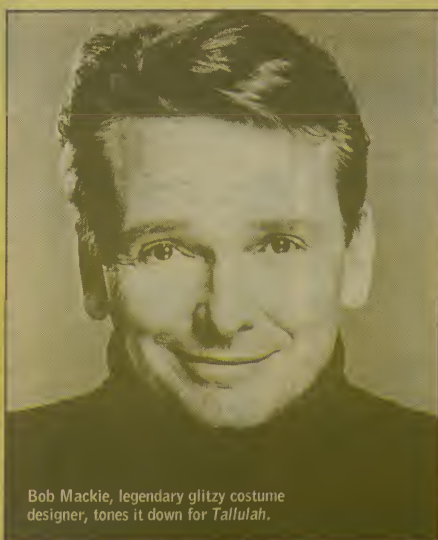
And when Kathleen Turner decided she was unhappy with her costumes for *Tallulah*, who was brought in to save the fashion day?

The answer is a no-brainer. Bob Mackie, 37 years after he found his first celebrity fan in Judy Garland, is still the one that mature divas call for. Just ask Cher, who collected her Academy Award in a Bob Mackie original that has become a part of Oscar legend, and then scandalized the whole US Navy by wearing a thong costume by Mackie aboard a battleship while shooting a video.

Mackie, 61, knows his reputation, but during a recent phone interview, he didn't sound entirely happy about it.

"It does hold you back in certain areas," he said of his glitzy notoriety. "I've done lots of different kinds of work, but it's the jazzy stuff everyone notices. That's a terrible reputation."

For example, the outfits he has designed for Turner in her one-woman portrayal of Tallulah Bankhead, opening Jan. 17 at



Bob Mackie, legendary glitzy costume designer, tones it down for *Tallulah*.

the Curran Theatre, are rather demure. "Everybody thinks I'm going to dress her in spangles or something," he said. "It's not glitzy at all. She is getting ready for a formal event, but it's not like she's going to sing or dance."

He has found the misapprehensions even extend to a newly launched furniture line that wears the Bob Mackie label. "A lot of people say, 'Oh, this is not what we expected.' I say, 'What did you

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SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman  
and Jan U. Wary

**S**poekily, each passing New Year brings with it a bizarre and unpleasant crisis which finds yet another dinosaur British rock star rocketing back into the press and into the limelight. Last year, it was poor, spiritual ex-Beatle **George Harrison**, who was knifed by an assailant who had broken, quite unbidden, into his manor. This year, it was middle-aged crooning pop singer **Bryan Ferry** who had the appointment



British pop singer Bryan Ferry

with destiny. Ferry was on that ill-fated British Airways jet bound for Kenya on which a crazed wacko kamikaze-attacked the pilot and crew, in a scuffle that almost scuttled the plane and its passengers.

Out There never was much of a conspiracy theorist, but is this another one of those patterns we never see until it's too late? Does big-lipped **Mick Jagger** have to fear a crazy fan next holiday season lunging for his ear with fangs bared? As we've said all along, it's dear, wee old **Ringo Starr** who could really use the publicity. Perhaps we have Ringo on the brain because we just saw the re-released *A Hard Day's Night*, and loved the scene of Starr "reading" a book without ever moving his eyeballs!

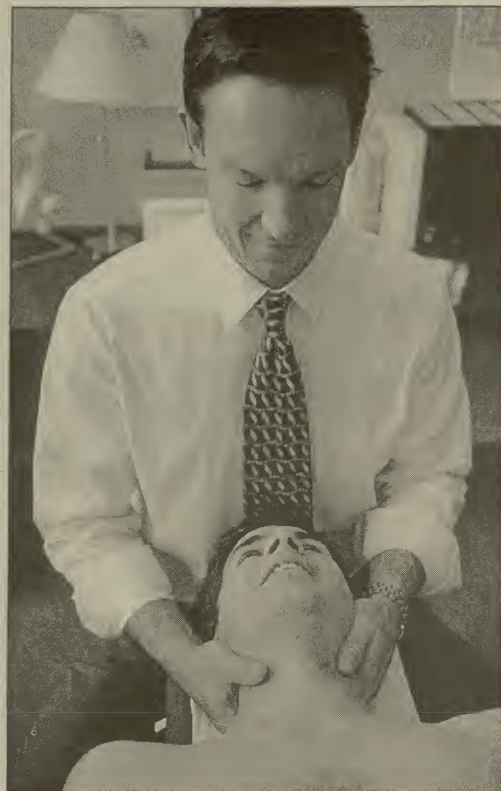
#### Silent folk

For some weeks now, a couple of tapes of *Queer as Folk* have been making their way around the office, mainly because everyone is curious what all the hype is about without actually wanting to order Showtime. OT has found the soap opera product alternately stereotypical and annoying, and racy and amusing.

But surely our favorite QAF moments came to pass when one of the copies of Episodes 4-6 was sent to us missing an audio dub. This allowed us to play one of our favorite parlor games, namely, inventing our own dialog to fit vapid Hollywood product. Call us *Mystery Science Theater 2001*.

Unfortunately, one of our viewing party, **TV Ty**, had already seen the episodes in question, which led to his offering such unsolicited play-by-play as, "Ooh, this is where **Michael** [Hal Sparks] visits that hot chiropractor daddy **Dr. David** [Chris Potter], and they practically have steamy sex right there on his consulting table! Michael is a little shall we say *slow*, so he thinks Dr. David's straight, even though the good doctor just gave him a nice solid slap on the behind. Wake up, Mikey, and smell the chloroform!"

"This is that scene where **Justin** [Randy Harrison] and his freaked-out mom go to the psychiatrist, and Justin blurts out, 'I



Chris Potter as Dr. David and Hal Sparks as Michael in *Queer as Folk*

like dick! I like sucking dick, I like getting fucked by dick,' etc. What a trashy mouth the kid has, but you do have to admit he's pretty."

Alas, the current model of couch potato/human bean does not come with a mute button, although we're sure time and evolution will take care of that eventually.

Anyway, we were surprised, when we eventually heard the talkie version, that Ty had pretty much hit the high points, and with considerably more economy of line than QAF's screenwriters. We think we'll let him narrate next time we tune into *Masterpiece Theatre*.



Out There

#### The evil empire

Remember how **Clinton** used to brag that his Cabinet "looks like America?" From where we sit, **Bush Jr.**'s Cabinet looks like *evil* America. In all the print spilled on Sec'y of Labor-designate **Linda Chavez**, we've seen nothing about



Labor Sec. wannabe Linda Chavez

the time she ran for Senate against **Sen. Barbara Mikulski** of Maryland and made headlines by calling Mikulski a "San Francisco Democrat." Remember that evil Republican code-word phrase for homosexual?

Maryland and the nation breathed a huge sigh of relief when Chavez lost decisively; indeed, public acknowledgment as a **big loser** seems to be the primary qualification for appointment to the New Bush Administration — after all, repugnant rightie **John Ashcroft**, creepy **Spencer Abraham** and smirky **Dubya** himself all failed, their last time out, to win office by popular vote.

Our source in the long-past Democratic Senate campaign confides that operatives had dug up and were ready to use alleged revelations that Chavez had undergone a number of abortions in her youth — another little bit of personal history unlikely to come up during her confirmation hearings. Luckily, OT has no such compunction when it comes to exposing the hypocrisy of anti-choice Republican monster women.

Protest the Bush inauguration on Saturday, January 20, Noon at Civic Center plaza.

#### The end of the affair

Talk about ferocious! An epic lesbian bitchfight played out in the august pages of the *New York Times* recently, in the form of a profile of Harvard English prof **Marjorie Garber** by reporter **Dinitia Smith**. We quote the relevant passages:



Harvard prof Marjorie Garber

"Ms. Garber's most outspoken critic is **Camille Paglia**, who was a graduate student at Yale when Ms. Garber was an assistant professor. The two, according to both women, had a brief relationship. Ms. Paglia calls it 'an encounter' that was 'unsuccessful.' Ms. Garber refers to it as a 'crush' on Ms. Paglia's part." Mee-oww!

The dueling Ms.s say nasty things about each other in print. Paglia on Garber's *Vested Interests*: "The tone oscillates wildly between droning academese and slick flippancy." Garber on Paglia's *Sexual Personae*: "a hodgepodge of watered-down Nietzsche and warmed-over Jung."

"The acrimony continues. In one of a series of phone calls with a reporter, Ms. Paglia said, 'Ms. Garber is not an erudite woman' and, 'Ms. Garber has been spending 10 years to be like me.'"

"Told of Ms. Paglia's comments, Ms. Garber said: 'She formed an attachment to me which didn't turn out the way she wanted it to work out, a crush. I'm so sorry that it's weighed so heavily on her for 30 years.'" Rrrroww!

#### Last resort

Time for just one more celebrity tragedy: *Gay News* from Amsterdam reports that "the holiday resort of English theatre producer **Sir Cameron Mackintosh** (responsible for productions like *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats* and *Miss Saigon*) has been reduced to ashes."

The family pile was near the village of Mallaig in West Scotland, where "mysterious posters turned up, criticizing the homosexuality of Mackintosh. Suspicions are that a pyromaniac of homophobic mentality had put fire to the idyllic resort."

"However traumatic such an experience might be for Mackintosh, he won't be long without a holiday cottage. His estimated assets, worth 350 million English pounds, will no doubt allow him to purchase at least a luxurious frame tent as a suitable replacement." ▼

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## THEATRE

# Tusk force

## Eugene Ionesco's 'Rhinoceros' comes home to Theatre Rhinoceros

by Richard Dodds

Theatre Rhinoceros wasn't named for Eugene Ionesco's play *Rhinoceros*, but there is an inevitability about this week's meeting of the tusks. An inevitability that took 23 years to transpire.

After all, Ionesco's absurdist classic has nothing specifically to do with the gay and lesbian issues that have been the theater's stock in trade for all these years. But as the notions of what constitutes queer theater have expanded, and as the play's messages have begun to resonate in Theatre Rhino's own neighborhood, the time seemed ripe to make the Rhino connection.

Actually, artistic director Doug Holsclaw had been thinking about doing *Rhinoceros* for a couple of years, and first talked to Danny Scheie about directing it. Scheie was unavailable, and Holsclaw then offered it to actor-director Colman Domingo, who had created the popular *Up Jumped Springtime* for the theater.

"At first I was like, 'I don't know. I don't know if I really get it.' So I had to think about it for a couple of months," Domingo said. "But I started to see how it could work, and Doug and I went to work on making cuts and coming up with ways we could tell the story we wanted."

The play, originally set in Paris, has been moved to San Francisco's Mission District, which will be communicated by sets, costumes, props, and attitudes, rather than any specific changes to the text.

For example, the character of Jean (famously played by Zero Mostel on Broadway, and by P.A. Cooley at Rhino) still begins turning into a rhinoceros. "But this rhino drives an SUV, carries a laptop and cell phone, and is obnoxious trying to get into Valencia Street restaurants," Domingo said.

In Ionesco's play, becoming a rhinoceros is a metaphor for a dangerous conformism inspired by the playwright's first-hand observations of the rise of fascism in Europe. Jean is just one of the friends and colleagues that the central character observes undergoing this transformation to his horror, but to the relative complacency of those around him.

Domingo has cast a woman, Alexis Lezin, in the traditionally male role of Berenger, but has kept the character's romantic interest female as well. "In this version," Domingo said, "Berenger is kind of a clubgirl who doesn't take things seriously. She looks like a punky dyke who would hang out at the Lexington. She doesn't know where she fits in, until her world is shaken up and she has to start deciding just what her values are."

The newly created lesbian relationship between Berenger and Daisy will remain a background element to the play's main issues about individualism and the elusive meaning of life, Domingo said.

"Having set it in San Francisco, which has always been a place where people flocked to be individuals, we see how people are becoming more and more influenced by money to change their entire lifestyles. You don't know

P.A. Cooley (left) and Alexis Lezin star in Theatre Rhino's *Rhinoceros*.

who are the rhinoceroses, who is selling out and jumping ship from these nonprofit and artist groups and going for the money."

Even with the resetting and re-gendering, Domingo said the cast is trying to honor Ionesco. "Everyone's taking it very seriously and not really camping it up," he said. "All the humor comes out of these dire and tragic circumstances."

We're not giving it a lot of shtick. But I think it still is completely hysterical — and completely serious."

For more information on *Rhinoceros*, call 861-5079.

### 'Copa' aesthetics

Barry Manilow was once a guilty pleasure for us, and there is hope that his musical *Copacabana* will be the same. Not that we expect to see a future Broadway hit in the making. Heck, not even Manilow expects that.

"I would keep it away from New York," he told an interviewer recently. "I think it's too naive for the critics in New York. I think my audiences in New York would love it, but I don't think they would get a chance to see it. The critics are just too harsh."

*Copacabana* launched its tour in Pittsburgh in June and opens this weekend at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts. The show has had a complicated history going all the way back to Manilow's 1978 *Even Now* album. On that album was the song "Copacabana," about a showgirl named Lola who is torn between the big-hearted bartender Tony and the glamorous gangster Rico.

Seven years later, Manilow himself co-starred in a TV movie based on the song. Next came a live version in an Atlantic City showroom, which in turn bred a 1994 edition that opened in London's West End. Written with Bruce Sussman and Jack Feldman, and with 18 new songs by Manilow, it had a good run, and then toured Britain for a year.

Starring as Lola is Darcie Roberts, who previously played San Francisco in the ill-fated national tour of Tommy Tune's *Busker Alley*. Franc D'Ambrosio, who holds the record as the

world's longest performing Phantom in *Phantom of the Opera* (including a stint in San Francisco), co-stars as Tony.

"Because the story was very, very thin," Manilow said of the song behind the musical, "we decided to concentrate on how we told the story. We decided to make it a love letter to those cornball Technicolor movie musicals from the 1940s."

For ticket info, call (888) 455-SHOW.

### Short scenes

Berkeley Rep has confirmed what we reported here last month, that *The Laramie Project* will be the final show in the theater's current season. The acclaimed drama about the murder of gay student Matthew Shepard will open May 23 in Berkeley Rep's new 600-seat proscenium theater.

*The Face* sounds queerly irresistible. Writer-director Bruce Bierman has taken Oscar Wilde's novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and superimposed it on the life of famously gay silent film star Ramon Navarro. The musical play will have performances on Jan. 12, Feb. 9, and March 12 as part of the Jon Sims Center's works-in-progress AIRspace program. Call 554-0402.

*Kiss of the Spider Woman* — the play, not the musical — will get a rare staging beginning Jan. 18 at the Bannam Place Theater in North Beach. Alexis Peri is directing Manuel Puig's drama for the Stray Dog Theatre Ensemble. The fledgling troupe's seven members are all 21 or younger. Call (510) 339-7691.

Jean Cocteau didn't just say no. The Frenchman wrote *Les Parents Terribles* over a three-day opium binge, and its story of a family looking for love in all the wrong places quickly became the *succès de scandale* of Paris. Marin Theatre Company is currently offering Jeremy Sam's 1994 translation that was presented in London and on Broadway as *Indiscretions*. Call 388-5208.

The Working Women Festival is presenting the world premiere of lesbian playwright Kate Moira Ryan's *Harold's Death*. The tale of a "precocious baby dyke" and the extended family she discovers opens this weekend at Il Teatro 450. Call 433-1172. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).



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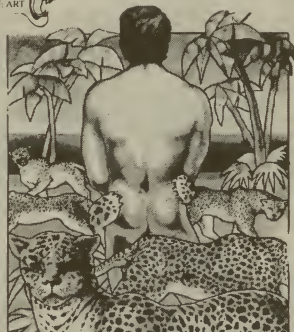


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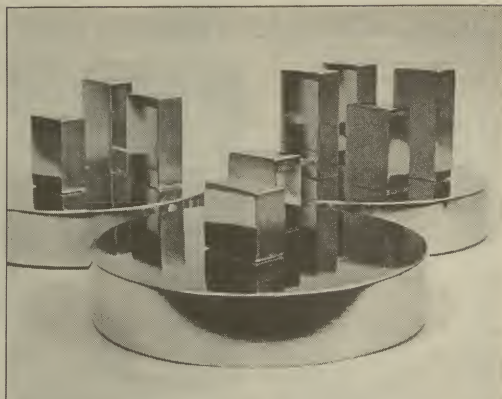
# As good as gold

Second Thurs. view of First Thurs. in SF

by Will Shank

As part of their acknowledgment of World AIDS Day and A Day With(out) Art, the San Francisco Public Library in Civic Center has mounted in the sixth floor Skylight Gallery a beautiful exhibition of the gilded work of Visual Aid artist Joel Hoyer. The exhibition is no doubt intended to be instructional, as befits a library installation. A dog-eared paperback copy of Cennino Cennini's 14th-century treatise on tempera painting and gilding, *Il Libro dell'Arte*, stares out from a vitrine that also holds the classic tools of the gilder: burnishing instruments, a gilder's tip, and sheets of the thinnest leaf gold imaginable.

But the sculptures and panel paintings of Hoyer, a local master gilder with a nationwide reputation, also emanate a resonant beauty. If his *Gold Panel Studies* and *Material Studies* allow the viewer to peer beneath the layers of perfect reflection and understand how they are made, his elegant vertical *City Scapes* and *Elements* rival the Chrysler Tower for fine design in metal and paint. Simple cylinders and cubes, discs and obelisks, stacked atop one another in perfect harmony, are luscious to behold. The artist, who grew up in San Francisco's Richmond neighborhood, told me, "It's fitting that this [his exhibition] is being presented at the San Francisco Public Main Library, because of the paramount importance this institution had in the development of my career as an artist and a craftsperson." On a sunny day, the installation is almost blinding, radiating throughout the gallery the unique glow that says pure gold. [Closes January 21.]



Joel Hoyer, *Gilded Geometries*, 1999

## Right angles

It is the absence of light that is featured downtown at the Fraenkel Gallery, in an installation of *My Ghost*, haunting (pun intended) black-and-white photographs and blue-ish daguerreotypes by Adam Fuss. Anyone who has looked at a daguerreotype, an almost-extinct 19th-century process of developing images on a piece of metal, is aware of the difficulty inherent in viewing such a photograph. The angle has to be just right in order to see a positive, rather than a negative picture, or no picture at all. Fuss plays with the fleeting nature of the medium, and his subject is not the traditional portrait, but swans, butterflies, a child's baptismal dress, and perhaps most effective of all, words. Images of the poems of Tarkovsky also flicker across the surface of large-format daguerreotypes, drawing the viewer's attention to the enigmatic verses, which must be viewed from this angle and that in order

to be taken in completely. As the artist told me at the opening, his work is about the "absence of a presence." Complementing the daguerreotypes is a series of photographs which show patterns or columns of smoke in an interior. The actual image is the shadow of smoke as caught by a flash of light on photosensitive paper. What could be more ethereal? (Through March 3.)

Also at 49 Geary, Stephen Wirtz Gallery is showing the new work of Deborah Oropallo. *Material Handling* is a departure from her well-known painted themes of toy railroad track stencils crisscrossing an ambiguous American landscape of flat patterns on the picture plane. New both in theme and technique, a third dimension is now being explored through her use of voluminous oil drums as the principal subject matter.

Physically, the painting/collages comprise Iris prints of digital photographs which have been glued to stretched canvases. Oropallo's familiar train-track-like patterns add a third dimension here and there as a partial screen (literally, through a silkscreen). Are the oil drums to be viewed as dangerous potential toxic waste? Do they simply form beautiful patterns stacked atop one another? The enigmatic title *Material Handling* gives us some clues, but not quite enough to explain the subject matter. The San Jose Museum of Art is planning to open a traveling Oropallo exhibition later this year. [Through February 24.]

## Cursive writing

While at 49 Geary, stop by Toomey-Tourell to see the remarkable sculptural heads of

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## THEATRE

# Southern comfort



Sheila O'Neill Ellis, Noel Wood and Tanya Shaffer (left to right) appear in *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, a Southern comedy by playwright Alfred Uhry, the Oscar-winning author of *Driving Miss Daisy*. *Ballyhoo*, a success on Broadway, is being given its Bay Area premiere by TheatreWorks, Jan. 17-Feb. 11, at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts.

For the prosperous Freitags of Atlanta, 1939, the trumpeted December premiere of *Gone with the Wind* is overshadowed by *Ballyhoo*, the genteel if surprisingly *Gentile* soiree that is the highlight of the Jewish social year. The upcoming cotillion ensnares the family in romantic intrigue and caste-conscious hypocrisy, but ultimately leads them toward their common heritage.

For tickets and information, call (650) 903-6000. ▼



Sculpture by Nathaniel Price



# The ripening of indies

## 3rd Annual IndieFest in SF & Berkeley

by Gary Morris

Now in its third year, the IndieFest (formally known as the San Francisco Independent Film Festival) has become one of the more significant showcases for indie cinema. This field is becoming so ripe that it may eventually overtake mainstream movies, a consummation devoutly to be wished and one helped along by the plummeting prices of video and the slow merging of the video look with the "real movie" look that comes from a 35mm camera.

Of course, content is still king, and no amount of visual legerdemain—or budget—can redeem a lack of imagination or a DOA script. This year's fest has ample evidence, based on a sampling of a dozen of the features and docs, of both the highs and lows of the indie field, and as such is a good indicator of where the movement is now, and where it's heading.

As always, the documentaries hold special interest. One of the best in recent memory is on view in this year's fest. For *900 Women*, director Laleh Khadiv gained unprecedented access to one of the

country's most notorious prisons, Angola in southern Louisiana. Khadiv doesn't sugarcoat the women prisoners' crimes; she simply lets them tell their stories, offering a context for their incarceration that's missing from cold statistics and reactionary media images.

Another strong, though less successful, documentary looks at New York's Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation. In *Black and Gold*, directors Rick Rowley and Jackie Soohen trace the transition of this group from gang-bangers to activists trying to rebuild their communities in the face of constant police harassment and brutality. The film compacts an enormous amount of history into its 74-minute running time, but the barrage of visual and aural pyrotechnics (endless double-exposures and a throbbing bass line) compromises some of the story's power.

### Yups in trouble

Yuppies in crisis is one of this fest's recurring themes. Opening night's *Standing on Fishes*, written, directed, and acted by Meredith Scott Lynn and Bradford Tatum, minutely details the romantic travails of sculptor Caleb and his

overbearing girlfriend Erica. There's some good dialogue—"This isn't sex, it's two-party masturbation"—and Kelsey Grammer has a fine turn as a queeny windbag movie director. Sexy Jason Priestly's intermittent appearances as Caleb's best friend provide a respite from some of the film's more bombastic moments as Caleb and Erica argue, loudly, for what seems like hours.

Additional troubled yuppies can be found in Rick Bridwell's sumptuous *Rendezvous in Samarkand*. This travelogue-with-story has location shooting in Africa and Europe that provides a gorgeous background to a well-done "ugly American" tale. Visually, John Littlefield as Randall is winningly handsome, but his nastiness to most of the people he encounters in his attempt to smuggle an SUV into Africa makes him one of the more unappetizing hunks in recent film memory.

Another fucked-up male dominates P. David Ebersole's *Straight Right*, a cliché but rather effective story of a boxer whose memories of childhood abuse turn him into a vigilante who first beats, then murders, men in his neighborhood who are abusing their kids.

Kent Osborne in Mark Osborne's *Dropping Out*, part of SF IndieFest.

On a more fey note, camp followers may want to sample John Michael Murphy's *Superstarlet A.D.*, but be forewarned. This homage to lipstick, hair dye, John Waters, Tura Satana, Bettie Page, *The Time Machine*, *Mesa of Lost Women*, and God knows what else is best left to completists in this area. Nonaficionados of the above will find the film interminable and irritatingly insular in its worship of the 1950s burlesque queen. At least the director had the good sense to throw in some dyke makeout sessions.

The housing crisis in San Francisco reminds us that New York's is just as bad. *East of A* explores this idea by distilling ten years in the lives of three initially unwilling roommates who come together in a New York loft. Reggie, the lone female, is a chubby-chaser screaming at the fat

Japanese landlord, and trying to make it as a singer. Chart is a drugged-out slacker, but secret nice guy. Peter is a former priest on Prozac whose one gay tryst has repercussions in the delicate balance of this ménage. Amy Goldstein has crafted a consistently engaging tragicomedy of life in the big city. There's a "specter of AIDS" motif, lots of hairstyle changes, and plenty of well-written, well-acted character-based comedy. Among many witty scenes is the treatment of Chart's drug problems as Peter and Reggie attempt to send him to a "cheap Christian detox center"; typical of the film's wry sensibility, he complains about the poor quality of his friends' intervention (no food, no drama) before agreeing to be treated. The film's one drawback is a protracted "miracle of babies" sequence

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# Bats in the belfry

## Malkovich in 'Shadow of the Vampire'

by Robert Julian

In filmmaking, as in life, schizophrenia is rarely a compelling personality trait. And director E. Elias Merhige's *Shadow of the Vampire* is so schizoid it is the Sybil of vampire flicks. Equal parts comedy, satire, biopic, and horror movie, its whole is less than the sum of its parts. There was a probably a good film to be made here, but instead of good, we get quirky.

Stephen Katz's script uses the filming of the 1922 silent classic *Nosferatu* as the basis for *Shadow of the Vampire*. German director F.W. Murnau (John Malkovich) hires an unknown "actor," Max Schreck (Willem Dafoe), to play the vampire Nosferatu. Murnau's leading actress (Catherine McCormack) is a morphine addict; his first cameraman (Wolfgang Muller) is too debilitated to work after a close personal encounter with Schreck—a second cameraman (Cary Elwes) has to be flown in; his leading man (Eddie Izzard) is creeped out by Schreck; and the film's producer (Udo Kier) has to keep things together while evidence mounts that the gentleman in the film's title role may not be an actor at all, but a real vampire.

That is a premise with promise. Unfortunately for everyone, director Merhige is unable to keep the story together or establish a consistent performance style that works from start to finish. The tone of the film changes from one scene to the next, and there are significant problems with continuity. At one point in the middle of the film, a crew member is attacked by Schreck, bitten severely in the neck, and then thrown off the bow of a ship that is part of the *Nosferatu* set. The absence of the crew member is never noticed by anyone, and filming just continues as before.

John Malkovich as F.W. Murnau in *Shadow of the Vampire*

There are some truly horrifying moments in *Shadow of the Vampire*, like the one where Schreck plucks a bat from the air and feasts on its neck. But there are many moments that are so camp—so ludicrous and over-the-top—that *Shadow* could be a Mel Brooks film or a skit from the old Carol Burnett show. The humor detracts from the hor-

ror, and vice versa. Katz's script can be played in a variety of styles, and at one point or another, the actors hit all of them. Dafoe, unrecognizable as Nosferatu/Schreck, is creepy and terrifying, but some of his reaction shots are so goofy they are camp. Malkovich, as Murnau, is a dedicated and driven director, hell-bent on realism, or a satire on same. It's impossible to determine from his performance which is intended. And the supporting characters in Murnau's company seem unsure as to whether they are comic relief or sober witnesses to a terrifying tragedy.

Although there is nothing inherently wrong with a film that is both comic and tragic (e.g. *American Beauty*), it takes great skill to pull off this sort of thing. That skill is not on display in *Shadow of the Vampire*. Yes, *Shadow* is certainly weird, but vacillating back and forth between genres, the film is only hoisted by its own petard. ▼

*Shadow of the Vampire* opens Friday, January 12 in San Francisco.

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# Dark laughter

Terence Davies' 'The House of Mirth'

by Robert Julian

Lily Bart is a woman out of time. An independent thinker with a flirtatious manner and an appetite for life, she finds herself at cross-purposes with her upper-class peers. In early 20th-century New York, Lily has the necessary social and family background to marry great wealth. And as a woman with no wealth of her own, it is the only option society affords her. Yet marrying for money is a choice Lily cannot embrace, any more than she can embrace the thought of marrying for love and having no money. This dilemma is Lily's undoing in Terence Davies' film adaptation of Edith Wharton's *The House of Mirth*.

Gillian Anderson finally gets to smile and trade in her *X-Files* Armani suits for period costumes by assaying the lead role of Lily Bart. She delivers a sound, credible performance with the able support of Eric Stoltz as Lily's soulmate, Lawrence Seldon; Laura Linney as Lily's nemesis, Bertha Dorset; Dan Ackroyd as Lily's lecherous financial advisor, Gus Trenor; and Elizabeth McGovern in the small role of Carry Fisher, one of Lily's few real friends. This nice ensemble cast, capably directed by Davies, delivers subtle performances appropriate to Davies' straightforward script, which takes few liberties with the original novel.

Filmed in Scotland and the South of France, *The House of*



Eric Stoltz and Gillian Anderson in *The House of Mirth*.

*Mirth* is a visually beautiful film, blessed with Remi Adefarasin's lush cinematography and Monica Howe's extraordinary turn-of-the-century costumes. Davies recreates the insular world of New York's upper crust, which Wharton knew so well. It is a world populated by the bored and the boring, yet simultaneously filled with treachery and deceit. Lily's descent into the underworld of the working class is largely a result of deadly blows dealt behind her back. But Lily's own hubris and indecision only serve to make the viciousness of others more effective.

As a writer and director, Davies does not take Wharton's material

to the heights achieved by Martin Scorsese in his superlative screen rendering of *The Age of Innocence*. But both dramatically and visually, Davies' film version of *The House of Mirth* is a vast improvement over last year's theatrical adaptation of the novel by San Francisco's American Conservatory Theater. As the tale of a woman whose life spirals downward, out of control, *The House of Mirth* has a certain timelessness. It is a long, dark journey that fans of Davies' films, or Wharton's novels, will not want to miss. ▼

**The House of Mirth opens January 12 in San Francisco.**

## Terence Davies

◀ Arts Cover

tions. I wouldn't go as far to say that [Wharton] is as fine as Chekhov — no, Chekhov is supreme for me, but [Wharton] is pretty good, she's really up there."

Davies feels he was very lucky to have landed a world-class cast for his film, especially Gillian Anderson, Dan Aykroyd and Eric Stoltz.

There's a deliciously Davies kind of serendipity to the casting of *The X-Files*' Anderson as Lily. Flipping through a pile of audition photos, the director suddenly spotted a face straight out of the portraits that were the specialty of Belle Epoch painter John Singer Sargent. "That's a Singer Sargent face," I cried. I had no idea about *The X-Files* — I don't watch television. Tea at Covent Garden was followed by an intensive LA audition. "I said, 'I think you can do it. Will you do it?' For the other

parts, I saw over 400 people."

The choice of comedian Dan Aykroyd for Lily's patron Gus Trenor was inspired by Davies' love of Jack Carson's nasty portrayal of the studio publicist in the 1954 remake of *A Star Is Born*. "Remember when he says, 'What goes 'round comes 'round.' And you know he's waiting for revenge. It's the same thing with Dan — he's jovial, he's got that lovely round face, and so when he does turn, you are frightened. When [Aykroyd] kicks the chair against the door, instead of shouting the next line and making it an overt threat, he's polite, which makes it even more chilling. You know that behind the polite threat, there's a stiletto."

### Suave sort

The hardest role to cast turned out to be the part of Lily's would-be lover, the suavely discreet bachelor Lawrence Seldon. Davies felt that Eric Stoltz had qualities unlike all the other contenders for the part. "He's got a natural elegance, as well as what all actors must have: an emotional intelligence. You've got to be very careful about who you put in period costume, because they can look very silly."

Davies said the American backers of the film gave him a very hard time about hiring Stoltz, who although an indie darling has never been big box-office state-side. "Once American money comes in, they give you all these lists of people who are very big names, but they can't do the roles. In the end I just kept on saying, like some kind of mantra: 'I've seen all the people you've told me about, and I think he's right.' In the end, they got bored and just gave up, but it was terribly te-

dious."

On location in Scotland, where early 20th-century New York was replicated, Davies howled when Stoltz would come on set and say, "Come on, *House of Mirth* team!" "Only an American would say that. It was terribly charming."

Sixteen years ago, Davies was complaining about how unsexy British men were. "It's very hard to be sexy in a damp climate when you're moist all the time." I wondered if the years and trappings of at least modest fame had taken the edge off his bitterness about being a gay Brit. I shouldn't have worried: Terence Davies is not one less bit caustic about the British gay scene — in fact, the emergence of wannabe American, fast-lane sex culture, as depicted in *Queer As Folk*, has him fuming. "I think it's marvelously bad. It's badly written, badly directed, the acting is dire! But what's really repellent is now the gay scene in England has imitated all the bad things here. It's all about what you look like, being young, being beautiful, having huge penises. It's so awful. It really makes you despair that something so bad can actually be [remade] on American television. Surely people can see how bad it is. What it's doing is pandering to the worst kind of sexual voraciousness. Where in that series is there any compassion or humanity, where? These people are superficial, they're spiritually dead. Why should we admire them? Why should we want to watch a series about them?"

The heart of Davies' tirade against the modern gay world is that it leaves most ordinary-looking men out in the cold, turning what should be interactive fun into mere entertainment.

next page ►



Gillian Anderson as Lily Bart



# Scandalous diva

## The divine Tallulah Bankhead

by Tavo Amador

**D**ahling, cocaine most certainly isn't addictive. I've been using it for 15 years!" claimed Tallulah Bankhead (1902-1968), the most famous stage star of her era. She often forgot names, so called everyone "dahling." When she died, *The New York Times* devoted two front-page columns to her life. She was the first and greatest female icon for gay men. Voraciously bisexual, notoriously foul-mouthed, she was a lady by birth and insisted nothing could compromise that. Because she made few movies, she is today remembered primarily by seniors, aging baby boomers, and film and theatre historians. That may change when Kathleen Turner's *Tallulah*, playing the Curran Theatre January 17 to February 11, hits Broadway.

Born in Jasper, Alabama, Tallulah Brockman Bankhead, named for a Georgia waterfall, was the daughter of a Speaker of the House of Representatives, the granddaughter and niece of United States Senators. Mother died shortly after giving birth, and she and one-year-old sister Eugenia were reared by their father, vari-

ous relatives, and retainers in a comfortable, loving, but haphazard manner. The family thought the theatre a good outlet for the child's legendary tantrums. Eugenia, considered prettier, briefly and unsuccessfully tried the stage as well, but attained notoriety by having seven marriages, three to the same man.

In 1918, Tallulah won a *Picture-Play* contest, leading to the film *The Wishful Girl* in New York. She did a short-lived play, *The Squab Farm*, then two movies, *When Men Betray* and *Thirty a Week*, earning praise for her beauty. She had thick ash-blond hair, sapphire-blue eyes, and classic features, although she was short and struggled to remain slim. Forgettable plays followed, as did another movie, *The Virtuous Vamp* (1919), but she acquired a reputation as a wit. At the opening of a play, she quipped to critic Alexander Wolcott, "There's less here than meets the eye," which he used in his review.

Stardom came in London, in *The Dancers* (1923), as a beautiful siren. Her incarnation of America's flaming youth rocked the city. Adoring teenage girls showered the stage with their lingerie. Their unspoken homoerotic worship shocked many, but not

the star. The silly play set a pattern: she seldom had material worthy of her abilities.

### Her sin

For seven years she starred in London shows, some more successful than others. But in Hollywood, talking pictures demanded stage actors. Paramount cast the husky-voiced beauty as a *Tarnished Lady* (1931), celebrated gay director George Cukor's first film. It flopped. Having just signed Marlene Dietrich, Paramount now promoted Bankhead as an American version of the German *femme fatale*. Although they became lifelong friends and may have had an affair, Tallulah objected, claiming she had been a star before Dietrich, and disdaining comparisons. Instead, she committed *My Sin* with Frederic March and *Was The Cheat*.

In 1932, she generated *Thunder Below*, and forced Gary Cooper, Cary Grant, and Charles Laughton to choose between *The Devil and the Deep*. All bombed. At MGM, she was *Faithless* to Robert Montgomery. Despite its failure, the studio offered a long-term contract, but Louis B. Mayer demanded Bankhead curtail her scandalous affairs, especially with women. Outraged, she rejected his offer, insisting she had already seduced his biggest box office star, Joan Crawford, an unverifiable claim. She also felt that the poor scripts and miscasting resulting in her film disappointments wouldn't change.

Back in New York, she appeared in a string of forgettable plays. One flop, *Dark Victory*, became a major Bette Davis success. Cukor tested her for Scarlett O'Hara. (The mind reels.) In 1937 she starred in an elaborate production of *Antony and Cleopatra*, prompting John Mason Brown's famous assessment, "Tallulah Bankhead barged down the Nile last night as Cleopatra, and sank."

But in 1939 she enjoyed a legendary triumph in Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes*. Critics and public cheered her rapacious Regina Giddons, delighted she had found a worthy vehicle. After the New York run, she toured the country with it, playing 104 cities. It would later become a smash film with Davis. Disappointing plays followed until 1942, when she had another hit, gay playwright Thornton Wilder's come-



A young Tallulah Bankhead

dy, *By the Skin of Our Teeth*. She played herself in a movie about stars helping military morale, *Stage Door Canteen* (1943), and stayed in Hollywood to sail on Alfred Hitchcock's *Lifeboat* (1944), winning The New York Film Critics Award as Best Actress, although Oscar voters failed to nominate her. For Twentieth Century Fox, she was *A Royal Scandal* (1945), a witty comedy in which she dazzled as Catherine the Great. Director Otto Preminger and his family had fled Nazi Germany, and Tallulah used her political connections to allow them to stay in America. The film was not a success, and she returned to Broadway.

### Barnstorming tour

Radio guest appearances kept her busy until she revived Noel Coward's *Private Lives* (1948), giving a wildly comic performance. After a successful Broadway run, she would, over several years, barnstorm the country in it, appearing in 45 states, earning huge sums. She campaigned for Harry Truman and made the cover of *Time*.

She played the queen in gay French writer Jean Cocteau's flop *The Eagle Has Two Heads* (1949). (The young Marlon Brando was briefly in the cast.) Warner Bros. tested her for Amanda in the film of Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*, a part she desperately wanted. By all accounts, she was brilliant, but on the last day, nervous, she arrived tipsy, causing studio Jack Warner to veto her. Gertrude Lawrence got the role, a monumental piece of miscasting in a botched version of the landmark play.

NBC offered a weekly radio program, *The Big Show*. Airing Sunday evenings from 1950-1953, it was exceptionally successful, for

two years stemming the television tide. Bankhead bantered and sang with the biggest names in show business. In 1953 she published a witty if unreliable but bestselling autobiography. ("When it comes to Davis, I'll take Jefferson. You can have Bette.") She played herself in *Main Street to Broadway* and followed Dietrich to Las Vegas, earning vast sums for her nightclub act.

In 1956 she revived Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*. The great gay playwright had written *Blanche* for her, but she was now too old and too celebrated

for the role. Her gay admirers greeted the more touching lines as though they were Tallulahisms. She could not restrain their laughter, especially as the performance progressed. She followed with the unsuccessful though lavish *The Ziegfeld Follies*.

She alternated undistinguished stage work with television throughout the remainder of her life, including a 1957 *Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour*, brilliantly playing herself as the "Celebrity Next Door," and blithely stealing the show from Lucille Ball. (The episode is available on video.) She was a funny "Black Widow" on the 1967 series *Batman*. Her last Broadway role was Flora Goforth in Williams' *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore*, with Tab Hunter (1964). Unable to remember her lines, on opening night she camped for what one critic called "the queerest audience since the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo." It closed after three performances.

In London she filmed *Die, Die, My Darling!* (1965), revealing that time and hard living had ruined her beauty, but not her authority. At Truman Capote's famous Masked Ball, she wore a sash identifying herself as rival Davis. Her last television appearance was on the *Tonight* show in May 1968.

Married (1937-1941) to actor John Emery, she waited until her father's 1940 death to divorce him, refusing to compete with her sister in that arena. Lillian Hellman, who disliked Bankhead, called her a great star, without disparaging her talent. When she was on stage, the audience was thrilled, and when she was off, they longed for her return. More than a generation has been awaiting that return, and Kathleen Turner is providing it, none too soon. ▼

## Terence Davies

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"What do you do if you're not good-looking, you don't have a good body and people are not lining up to go to bed with you? The vast majority of us are ordinary-looking people. The implication behind [*Queer As Folk*], behind Compton Street in London, and Castro in San Francisco is that if you're not young and beautiful and desirable, you are a nonperson. That I find so repellent and so awful, so inhumane. I can't accept it, it seems to me to be almost wicked."

Davies still remembers the sometimes acid reaction he received for his pioneering trilogy of films that painted a bleak portrait of the pre-Liberation world as seen through the eyes of a working-class, severely repressed gay boy who grew up under the cloud of legal repression, the Catholic Church and a brutal dad. "I can remember when the *Trilogy* was shown here, and somebody stood up and said, 'This is not politically correct. This is not true.' I said, 'How dare you say that? You're good-looking, you've got a good body, no doubt you've never had any problem going to bed with anybody. You have no idea what

it's like being ugly, unappealing sexually, and growing up working-class Catholic in Liverpool in the '50's and '60's!"

"My idea of it is dark because it's ruined my life. I do not want to be gay. If I could change it tomorrow, I would! I hate it. My teenage years were unbearable beyond belief, spiritually bleak. Up to 1967 it was a criminal offense in England, so you were *ipso facto* a criminal, even though you hadn't done anything."

"I do think that the way gay life has evolved is a complete betrayal of Stonewall. I really think if the people who took those brave and courageous attempts to change the law could see what's happened, I doubt if they would have bothered."

At the end of our chat, as in the beginning, Terence and I hug. He's a treasure. He won't change, won't bend to the current fashions, God bless him. A *New York Times* reporter, comparing the effect of reading Wharton's *House of Mirth*, with all her myopic views on race and class, to seeing Terence Davies' film version, with its bracing if coldly presented humanity, notes an intriguing paradox: "We put down Wharton's novel uncannily uplifted, and come out of Mr. Davies' film just ever so slightly bummed." ▼

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# Stuck in 'Traffic'

## Talking with Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones

by Tim Nasson

Not even two full weeks after their wedding at the posh Plaza Hotel in New York City, newlyweds Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones embarked upon a return trip to Los Angeles to promote their new film, *Traffic*, now playing in the Bay Area. It's a film that is garnering a lot of attention for them as well as its director.

*Traffic* is director Steven Soderbergh's second film in a year. His first, *Erin Brokovich*, was one of last spring's most successful at the box office, and is surely a front-runner for upcoming Best Picture and Actress (Julia Roberts) Academy Award nominations.

The year 2000 having been a pretty dreadful year for movies, there is now the strong possibility that one director, Soderbergh, will have not one but two films nomi-

nated in the Best Picture category at the Oscars. Both of his films from this year are on many critics' Top Ten lists.

The title *Traffic* is not a reference to gridlock, but to the trafficking of drugs. In the film, Michael Douglas plays the US government's newly appointed anti-drug czar, who is determined to put an end to the high-stakes game of Mexican/American drug trade.

Although Douglas and Zeta-Jones co-star in the ensemble film (along with scores of others, including Dennis Quaid, Benicio Del Toro, Amy Irving and Don Cheadle), they do not share any scenes with each other. Zeta-Jones plays Helena, the pregnant, naive wife of an American druglord who is arrested on drug charges. When she learns of his secret illicit activities, she vows to save the business, even if it means she has to take it over. "There are 110 speaking parts in *Traffic*," director



Catherine Zeta-Jones in *Traffic*

Soderbergh said at a recent press conference.

"The wedding is over, alas," said Academy Award-winning actor Douglas (*Wall Street*) of last November 18. "We didn't even have a honeymoon. But I guess

living together for two years before the marriage was like a honeymoon. We are kind of doing it backwards: the honeymoon first, then the baby [their four-month-old son Dylan], and now we're going back to work.

"This is the first time we've faced so many journalists since the wedding," the new, proud father added. "I'm scared to think what you're going to ask."

### Sing-along with Mike

About his wedding with Zeta-Jones, Douglas explained that "it lasted all night. It began at 7:30 p.m. with a 25-minute, non-denominational ceremony, with traditional vows, and ended with a sing-along around the piano bar at 5 a.m. the next morning."

Among the guests who lent their voices to the festivities: Jimmy Buffet, Art Garfunkel, Gladys Knight and a Welsh choir.

Douglas admitted there was a low point during the ceremony. "Catherine and I decided to sell our official wedding photos to Britain's *OK!* magazine. As a defensive tactic, certainly not to raise money. It was a way, we thought, to control the media, so we were both generally pretty happy with our decision. But *OK!* rival *Hello* magazine paid people to infiltrate the wedding and take clandestine videos that were turned into stills. I thought it was kind of mean-spirited and loser-like for *Hello* to do that."

He couldn't resist taking a stab at *Hello* when he said, "Their photos were ugly and nasty, and the photos *OK!* took were very nice."

As for marrying a woman 25 years his junior — a subject that has made him the target of late-night TV host Jay Leno's potshots — Douglas dismissed criticism as jealousy. "It's not quite as unusual and freaky as it's being made out to be," he said. "I like to think that I am a pretty well held-together 56-year-old, and that she's a pretty and mature 31-year-old."

Zeta-Jones is convinced that, although she and her new husband do not share scenes in *Traffic* with each other, and their storylines are unconnected, their fans



Michael Douglas in *Traffic*

won't care.

"With all they've seen of us together recently, the wedding and tabloids for the past two years, I think fans will be happy to see him on one end of the screen and me on the other. I mean, if they have any sense at all and are true fans, then enough already."

Zeta-Jones and Douglas met two years ago at the Deauville Film Festival in France and have been together since.

When Soderbergh initially offered Zeta-Jones the role of Helena, he did not know that she was with child. "I did have a predicament," Zeta-Jones said. "I had never met Steven, but definitely wanted to work with him. I kind of played with him and asked when he thought the film would be going into production. When I figured out that it was going to be April 2000, I realized that I would be five months pregnant at that time. I had to tell him."

"I was so glad when Steven came back and told me that he also thought that the idea of my character being pregnant would work well."

This is also the first time Zeta-Jones was able to use her own Welsh accent in a film. "Steven thought that it would not only add to my character's believability, but would also allow me to be a little more comfortable with the role, not having to worry about an accent."

The next thing that Zeta-Jones would like to work on with Douglas is having another baby. "I'd love to have another child with Michael," she laughs, "but I don't think that he is willing to go through with it right away." Douglas has a 21-year-old son from his first marriage. ▼

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### IndieFest

◀ page 29

that suddenly plunges it into bathos. This happens also in *Standing on Fishes*, when Jason Priestly waxes nauseatingly poetic about having a kid ("I want that little weight on my shoulders," he blubbers). Maybe it's an end-of-the-'90s thing.

### Queer glimpses

The fest's queer component is, with one exception, mostly a glimpse or two of a tired queen or dyke. Besides the lesbian moments in *Superstarlet A.D.*, there's a tranny whore in the video feature *Hunger*. Only diehard fans of Knut Hamsun, the Nobel Laureate writer on whose 1890 novel the film is based, will want to suffer through this overcooked turkey. Also, Kelsey Grammar's assistant in *Standing on Fishes* is a screamer who flutters nervously when shown sculptor Caleb's much-discussed prosthetic vagina.

The Real Gay Feature in the fest is *Straightman*, written and directed by David Berkowitz, who also co-stars as misanthropic, horny

straight comic David. His best friend Ben (Ben Redgrave, who cowrote the film) is finishing off a straight relationship because, as we learn, he's really gay. The title soon becomes ironic, as the story moves from the excesses of David ("straightman") to the coming out of Ben. The latter process is rendered with grainy intensity, unabashedly showing Ben and a variety of tricks fucking their brains out in tearooms, alleyways, and stairwells. There's plenty of dark humor, and Berkowitz doesn't stint on the lurid, seedy nature of David and Ben's world. But there's also a humanity, a palpable bond between this odd couple, that gives the film a refreshing sense of reality, even when scenes run overlong or lose focus. This makes *Straightman* both absorbing in itself and proof that the IndieFest is a good place to look for good cinema, queer or otherwise. ▼

The 3rd Annual SF IndieFest runs 1/11-21 at the UA Galaxy, Lumiere Theatre, Bohemia Digital Movie House, and Fine Arts Cinema in Berkeley. Info: (415) 820-3907.



## DISCS

# Taking the show on the road

## Fellini & Lattuada's 'Variety Lights' is out on DVD

by Gary Morris

**V**ariety Lights (1950) is a rarity in the career of Federico Fellini, though not an unexpected one for a first-time director. The film, now out on DVD, was a collaboration, in production, direction, and screenplay, with another auteur, Alberto Lattuada. Up to that time Fellini had worked mainly on screenplays (most notably Rossellini's *Open City*), while Lattuada was already an established, respected director of neorealism and quality literary adaptations. Fellini fans and scholars have spent much time and ink on trying to determine who did what in the film — a question immediately confused by the presence of both men's wives in the two lead female roles.

Fellini himself has weighed in on the subject in his typically witty, elusive way. In Charlotte Chandler's book *I, Fellini*, he says, "I have been asked many, many times about who really directed *Variety Lights*. Should it be counted as one of my films or as one of his? He counts it as one of his, and I count it as one of mine. We are both right." Ultimately it appears to be a typical exploration of one of Fellini's favorite subjects, the "theatrical life" as lived by a group of second-rate itinerant entertainers. While he would explore this terrain to greater effect a few years later with *La Strada* (reducing the troupe to two), *Variety Lights* has its own charms.

Fellini's infatuation with de-

luded dreamers and the eternal lure of show biz, even in its kitschiest forms, is evident from the film's opening moments. Low-budget impresario Checcho del Monte (Peppino De Filippo) heads a ragtag band of entertainers taking their show on the road. They encompass a wide variety of types, including Checcho as the head comedian and, per his own description, "tango virtuosi," "a famous imitator," "an international fantasy entertainer," and the always indispensable "possessed showgirl."

The group, which includes Fellini's wife Giuletta Masina as Checcho's ever-forgiving girlfriend Melinda Amour, forges bravely on, despite constant problems with intransigent creditors, pushy theatre owners, internal bickering and grandstanding. The acts themselves run the gamut from pompous pastiches of high art ("tango virtuosi") to vaudeville shtick (love songs to a goose and a parrot), to tacky "exotic" routines ("Sweet Molokai"), to bump-and-grind fare with nearly nude female dancers who of course generate the most applause. Checcho manages to keep everybody together, at least for awhile, despite the many problems, and despite his own wandering eye.

Into this happy group comes Liliana (co-director Lattuada's wife Carla Del Poggio), a hinterlands beauty queen who pines for the stage, even the threadbare one that Checcho eagerly offers her. In one of the film's funniest scenes,

she enchants an otherwise bored audience — and alienates the other performers — when her skirt is accidentally torn off. Egged on by the theatre owner despite the rest of the company's irritation, she plays up the cheesecake and becomes not only the star of the show but the target of Checcho's perpetual lust. From here the story becomes a mix of amusing and dour vignettes stitched together by Checcho's increasing pursuit of and humiliation by Liliana, whose true colors soon shine through her veneer of sweetness and innocence.

One of *Variety Lights*' pleasures is its empathy with the performing life in all its shoddy glory. The camera lingers lovingly both on the performers, who heroically continue their routines even when the audience is sleeping or screaming at them to stop, and on the audience itself, the wonderful everyman/everywoman faces that are glimpsed briefly but vividly throughout the film. This is clearly an insider's view (another hint that the film belongs more to Fellini, who knew this territory well), sweetly recording a dazzling level of detail of the life. Among the film's many memorable images and motifs are the old man who hides with his goose in the toilet of the train to avoid paying for a ticket; the performers crossing themselves before they go onstage; the audience's sudden, quite unexpected inspiration to sing

along with the tired lyrics to a cliché romantic tune: "Oh mummy, I'm so much in love!"; and Masina's enchanting stroll through history as she impersonates Napoleon and Garibaldi. Queer viewers will want to watch for a fluttery-handed queen who appears briefly.

The film also doesn't stint on the darker dimension, as evidenced by the company's several long, arduous treks. When they can't pay for a cab or even a haycart to take them several miles to their venue, they walk. In a memorable sequence, a rich lawyer agrees to house them all for the night on the tacit agreement that Liliana will sleep with him. When the jealous Checcho gets wind of this, he attacks the lawyer and the group is thrown out, forced again into a long walk back to town, this time at night. These walks take on an almost mythic resonance, a kind of pilgrimage as the group perseveres against any odds for the sheer pleasure of performing.

### Group theatre

*Variety Lights* is an ensemble work that focuses less on individual actors than on the group, the experience of being part of an ambitious artistic entity. Nonetheless, Peppino De Filippo stands out with his marvelous portrait of the blustery, charmingly deluded impresario who bounces back no matter how low he sinks. The other actors all acquit themselves



well, though we could wish for more screentime for Giuletta Masina, who would triumph in larger roles for her husband later.

Critic Andrew Sarris has pointed out the film's similarity to *All About Eve* in its story of an ambitious younger performer who cunningly displaces an older player — a motif also worth examining in terms of Fellini's work with Lattuada, given the fact that the latter is virtually unknown today while Fellini has become part of the language ("Felliniesque"). *Variety Lights* is much grittier and more discursive, less "theatrical" than Mankiewicz's classic in spite of its theatrical subject. The film is a worthy introduction to the director's many classics, which would begin only a few years later with *I Vitelloni* (1953) and *La Strada* (1954). Criterion has issued the film without extras; and sticklers may be disappointed in the quality of the transfer, which, while generally crisp, has intermittent artifacts. Fellini buffs will find the disc a must. ▼

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# Leathermen drop loads of bucks for charity

by Mister Marcus

From time to time, some inspiring news comes my way, and last Thursday, January 4, it was the Basket Contest at the Edge, where it was reported that some \$2,260 was raised for the AIDS Emergency Fund through raffle ticket sales during the evening.

The whole thing suddenly caught on like wildfire: one leather titleholder dropped \$100 in the pot; another man visiting from Las Vegas wrote a check for \$1,000. Even an unemployed man managed to give his last four quarters to the cause. The generosity of this community often amazes us all.

At the Eagle on the following Sunday, January 7, the final six men on the 2001 Bare Chest Calendar were being auctioned off for dinner dates and other goodies. Lenny Broberg as the auctioneer, with Keith Truitt acting as his "Vanna," managed to keep the crowd well beyond the 1500-1800 time schedule.

More than \$6,000 was raised for the AEF and Positive Resources due to the generosity of many in attendance, but the high amount was paid for Seth Adams (Mr. June 2001), who went for \$750, which was "matched" by friends of his for a total of \$1,500.

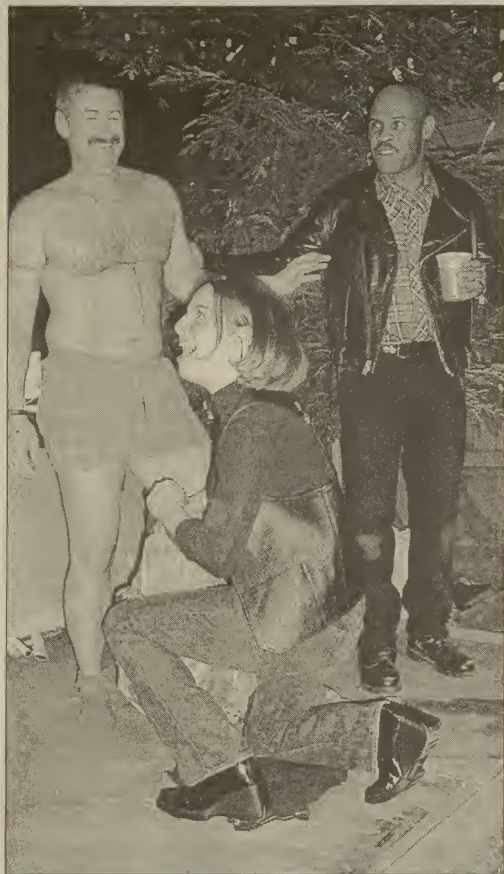
There were, as always, hilarious moments. The afternoon was jam packed throughout.

And so it goes, another example of the generosity of leather men for causes they believe in. Jerry Roberts put it all together for the last time, and he deserves a big hand for all his efforts during the past eight years. Leather pride is alive! Kudos for this community!

## Flocks head east for winter fun

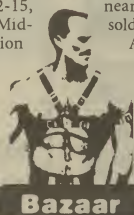
Hundreds of leather people will travel to Washington, D.C. this weekend, January 12-15, for the 17th annual Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather competition being staged by the Centaur Motorcycle Club as part of their Leather Cocktails weekend. Over two dozen people from San Francisco will be in Washington for the big weekend and, as always, delegates from all over the U.S., Canada and Europe have purchased the weekend package, so it should be a hot time in the nation's capital this weekend.

One sure indication that it will be a smashing success: the host



A charming young lady helped undress Seth Adams (Mr. June 2001) on the Bare Chest Calendar dinner date auction at the Eagle last Sunday, January 7. Seth went at auction for \$1,500 (\$750 from an audience member, matched by a group of his friends) to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and Positive Resources. More than \$6,000 was raised at the annual benefit.

Washington Plaza Hotel is sold out completely, and four other nearby hostelrys are almost sold out as well.



**Bazaar**

At my deadline, I have been advised there will be nearly a dozen men vying for the title. Tom Robinson will pass the sash and the title to a worthy successor on Sunday afternoon, January 14. I'll be there covering the event again, so you'll get the results and a photo or two here next week.

## Eagle action

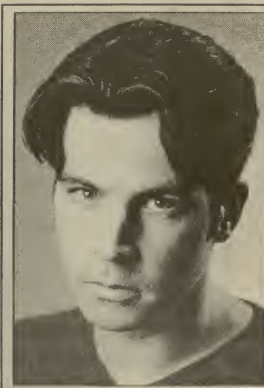
Another title will be bestowed almost at the same time in San Francisco when the Eagle Tavern

will stage their first ever Mr. Eagle Tavern Leather contest during the regular Sunday beer/soda bust. The winner will compete for the Mr. San Francisco Leather title, taking place on Friday, March 9. Yes, it's "that" season again.

## Polar Bear party

It's also Polar Bear Weekend up in Guerneville, with a welcome-back party at the Rainbow Cattle Co. on Friday night, a pig-out brunch at Pasta Boys on Saturday morning, and a bear movie fest at Club Fab goes from 1300, followed by pizza and a comedy show at the Triple R, featuring Scott Kennedy, a new bear come-

next page ►



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## CRUISING SCENE

## In a Castro bar

by Mark Mardon

If I've been here 50 times, I've been here 100, maybe 1,000. The same bar, always late at night, jam-packed, faces turned upwards toward the video screens, or level at all the other faces, bodies crushing against each other, not unwillingly.

A couple of times I've left this place with somebody. Once, the guy I went with was so drunk he passed out when he hit the bed.

Standing here all alone among these men, shifting my weight from one foot to another, a hand stuffed in my pocket, the other clasping a beer bottle (security blanket), I feel so ... exposed! They all know what I want ... or they think they do. Do I know?

In this place, if you're standing next to someone you want to get to know, and you move away even for an instant, someone else has already stepped in and taken your place.

On closer inspection, I notice that in the crush of bodies, no one's actually touching. Little pockets of airspace separate the various anatomical parts. All these men with their studied casualness — so prim and proper and respectful! This definitely is not a carnal meat-packing house like the Hole in the Wall or My Place.

In the past, in this bar, little



Al Pacino was *Cruising* for a bruising way back in the '70s.

pockets of airspace have been my curse, stretching cruelly between me and the men of my various yearnings, as awesomely unbridgeable as the Grand Canyon.

#### Gulf war

Once in a while someone reaches out through that little gulf of airspace and makes human contact. In fact, I see someone now carefully measuring the distance between us, gauging the prospect of navigating across, allowing for variables, determining whether I'm friendly, hostile or neutral territory.

He executes passage as nimbly as the Starship Enterprise coursing through asteroids. Contact is confirmed.

In one fine, long-fingered hand, he holds a martini glass. Outrageously beautiful piles of curly brown hair cascade down over and in front of his eyes. He

lets me place my palm against his, comparing the shape of our hands.

He wants ... friendship.

I could be naive, but the word has a nice ring to it because it doesn't sound cheap.

He looks so foreign in this place, like a poet among preppy clones. Rimbaud? He must be the reincarnation.

I run my fingers through the curls. He knows very well I want to do it all night. He knows everything.

He kisses the back of my hand. Silly, I suppose, but it surprises and delights me. How often do you find a prince in the Castro?

Between strangers in a gay bar, every friendly word is foreplay. I leave the bar with a kiss of friendship on the back of my hand and a glowing feeling all over. Farewell, brief lover — the Hole in the Wall awaits! ▼

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

dian.

After all that, it's a bear long-johns and underwear party at the RR Eagle. On Sunday, Brunch at Pasta Boys 0900-Noon, and then partake of a barbecue and chili feed while watching NFL playoff games and a closing party at the Triple R.

There's a lot more, but space limitations preclude listing all the events. Sound like fun to me! ▼

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, January 11

The 2002 Bare Chest Calendar kicks off at the Powerhouse tonight at 2100 sharp with the selection of Mr. January 2002. The judges are Nick Knight, Bob Miller and Philip Rubin. Houston Dav-enport will "sign." The winner gets \$100 cash and stardom for at least a year!

At the Lone Star Saloon, the Constantines MC host a \$7 beer bust from 2000-2300.

### Friday, January 12

In LA, the Gauntlet II will stage their Mr. Gauntlet II Leather contest. The winner will compete for the Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2001 title in March.

### Weekend January 12-15

It's Martin Luther King holiday weekend, and the Centaur MCs big Leather Weekend takes place in Washington, D.C. (see above);

At the Russian River, it's Polar Bear Weekend, with all sorts of events taking place for the hairy/beary crowd.

### Sunday, January 14

In Washington, DC, Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Contest takes place.

In San Francisco, Mr. SF Eagle Tavern Leather will be chosen at their beer bust from 1500-1800.

### Wednesday, January 17

Wear your butchest skivvies to 933 Harrison tonight for the first of the year Underwear Buddies night. You know the rules and the time, but if not, call 863-HEAD.

### Friday, January 19

SF Exiles present "Safety & Magic" with Cleo DuBois, who will expound on play piercing, temporary piercing, etc. All at the Women's Bldg.,

with increased fees for both members and guests.

### Saturday, January 20

GDI's host their 27th anniversary and announce the demise of the club at the Eagle. Admittance by club overlay or invitation in hand.

In Long Beach, California, Mr. Long Beach Leather Bear contest takes place at Piston's Bar today. No details at my deadline.

### Sunday, January 21

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon from 1600-2000 for only \$7. Always fun at the Lone Star!

### Wednesday, January 24

First Leather Buddies gathering of the year at 933 Harrison. Boots, leather, uniforms, rubber — no cologne and/or deodorant. You know the rules, but if you don't, call 863-HEAD.

### Thursday, January 25

Mr. February 2002 will be chosen at the Powerhouse tonight at 2100 sharp. Judges are Lance Gear, Graylin Thornton and Steve Gaynes. Win \$100, fame, volunteerism and fun.

Mr. Edge Leather Bob Miller's benefit for the Stop AIDS Project with a beer/soda bust for only \$7 and entertainment by Sheba and Doug Steven, with a raffle to boot.

### Friday, January 26

Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2001 contest at the Powerhouse Bar, at around 2230, with Lance Gear emcee'ing. "Mama's" Breast Cancer benefit dinner takes place at the Cliff House where shuttle service will be provided if you must be at the Powerhouse for the contest later. More details on these two events next week.

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare by Mark Mardon

### Up with Sims

Something excellent is happening in the local queer arts scene. Under the direction of **Charles Wilmoth**, the **Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts** is blossoming. This month and next alone the center, home to the **Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band** — which the flamboyant Jon Sims founded in 1978 — will be presenting a sumptuous fare of performance art in many genres, showcasing emerging artists as well as old pros.

Vibrant is the word best describing the energy flowing through the JSC's funky SoMa space above a tire shop, where four sizable rehearsal spaces accommodate many diverse performance-art undertakings. More and more, the public is being invited in to see exactly what transpires in this most authentic of community spaces.

"We're pumping up the volume!" says Wilmoth, formerly director of Intersection for the Arts, who brings to his latest role an uncommon awareness of the vital contribution emerging LGBTQ artists make in shaping the cultural fabric of San Francisco. Wilmoth wants the center to bustle with community creativity, and toward that end has brought in Assistant Director **Ed Groff** to help with programming. The results show in the quantity and quality of the fare scheduled.

Among other offerings this month at JSC, you'll find the heady "**Lit @ JSC**," the Bay Area's first ongoing queer literary reading series in a non-commercial setting, featuring renowned poet **Thom Gunn** and emerging poet **Dan Bellm**. (Thursday, Jan. 18, 8pm; \$5-\$10 sliding). Here you'll find many local literary types in attendance. Ordinarily starved for public readings, queer readers will now be able to mingle with writers who influence the shape and direction of queer culture.

As part of the **AIRspace** artist-in-residence program, emerging playwright **Bruce Bierman** will be workshoping "**The Face**," a piece inspired by Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Grey* and the glamorous, tragic life of silent screen idol Ramon Navarro. (Friday, Jan. 12, 8pm; \$5-\$10 sliding).

The AIRspace program this season leans heavily toward dance, with not one but three dance-oriented troupes participating. Among these is **GAPA Dance Company**, a dynamic collective of young queer, Asian American dance artists, featuring the work of emerging choreographers **Michael Palad**, **Alma Soongi Beck**, and **Budi Chandra Kirana**. They performed a rough-cut program early in January, and will be back in the spotlight, more refined than ever, on February 2 at JSC.



The GAPA Dance Company

Coming up on January 19 is "**Breath**," a dance ritual by AIRspace artist **Tara Brandel**, artistic director of Mna Rua (Gaelic for Red Woman) Dance Productions, with strong connections to Ireland. She uses air as a metaphor of inspiration and change. Drawing from the experiences of contemporary lesbians, Brandel's piece posits a vision of community for the new Millennium.

Already well known in the local dance scene, **Yannis Adoniou** and the dynamic dance group he co-founded in 1998, **KUNST-STOFF**, present the first of their three workshop performances of "**Everything is Under Control**" on January 26.

The most ambitious project in development at JSC is **Carla Lucero's** full-scale opera "**Wuornos**," based on the story of Aileen Wuornos, the alleged lesbian serial murderer currently on death row in the state of Florida. In conjunction with the production, Lucero will be offering free opera workshops for vocal interpretation and opera appreciation, beginning in February and continuing through March.

Also in residence at JSC is the acclaimed lesbian theater company **Split Britches**, whose members will be workshoping "**Mixed Salad**," a postmodern performance-cabaret of unrequited love, on Saturday, Jan. 27 (8pm).

Special congratulations are due to JSC for presenting hot, contemporary live music with "**Jazz in January**," an evening of savory jazz classics with vocalist **Cedric Brown** and pianist **Charles Mister**. Queer jazz aficionados, always eager to come out of the closet with their jazzy desires, now have at least one night to call their own. (Sunday, Jan. 28, 6pm; \$5-\$10 sliding).

In the coming months look for the inauguration of "**Mighty Real Theater**" at JSC, in which queer homeless kids working with LYRIC (Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center), the Harvey Milk Center, and Eureka Valley Recreation Center perform a show called "**Reality Check**."

Like every other arts organization in this space-crunched town, JSC has had to struggle with a rent crisis. Wilmoth says the rent went up 120 percent for this year, requiring JSC to seek emergency rental-assistance funds from City. It's in the public interest to keep this vital community space going strong, so patronize the JSC artists and feel like a queen, king, prince, princess or poet. ▼

For more information about programs at Jon Sims Center, phone 554-0402 or surf [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)



Stairway in Apartments/Barracks (Building 64), Alcatraz, gelatin silver print, 1999 by Corrie McCluskey, on exhibit from Monday, Jan. 15 at UC Berkeley Extension, Downstairs Gallery, 55 Laguna St. 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. M-F; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat. & Sun.

## Fri 12

### Ira & Lenore S. Gershwin Theater

The Zen Hospice Project presents Ram Dass and Huston Smith in "Conversations on Death," two spiritual elders in a discussion about finding grace and love in the dying process. Dass is the author of many books, including the classic *Be Here Now* and his recent *Still Here*. Smith, author of many books including *Religions of Man*, is considered one of the world's foremost authorities on religion and philosophy. Moderating the discussion will be psychologist Frances Vaughan, author of *Shadows of the Sacred: Seeing Through Spiritual Illusion*. \$20. 7:30pm. University of San Francisco, 2350 Turk Blvd. (west of Masonic). Info/tix: (510) 704-4448; [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com); [www.zenhospice.org](http://www.zenhospice.org). (Note: An all-day workshop will be presented by Dass and Smith on Sat., Jan. 13 at Ft. Mason Conference Center. Tix for both lecture and workshop are \$120).

### AHP Services Center

"Relationship Essentials Workshop" for gay and bisexual men. If you've ever had difficulty with a relationship or not gotten what you've wanted from a relationship, come learn some of the stumbling blocks and how to deal with them. Free. 6:30-9pm. 1930 Market St. RSVP: 476-6448, ext. 1.

### First Congregational Church, Berkeley

2nd annual "Sing for Hope," an evening of opera arias and Broadway show tunes featuring "Seven of New York's Brightest Young Rising Opera Stars." A benefit for the Center for AIDS Services, a nonprofit day center in Oakland for people with HIV and AIDS. \$35 performance only; \$50 including post-concert reception with stars. 8pm. 2435 Channing Way (cor-

ner of Dana), Berkeley. Info/tix: Peggy or Debbie, (510) 655-3435.

### A Traveling Jewish Theatre

Lisa Geduldig presents "Borscht Belt By the Bay." It's the Grossinger's meets the Golden Gate; It's Bubbe goes to the Castro. It's a whole different take on Jewish performance. Featuring Sara Felder, Lisa Geduldig, Jeff Razz, Dan Rothenberg and Betsy Salkind. They're all Jews and all funny! Join them at the Pocono's of Potrero Hill. \$22.50 adults; \$19.50 seniors; \$11.25 students; Thursday nights are "pay what you can" at the door (limited seating). 8pm. Thu-Sat, 2pm & 7pm Sun. Thru Jan. 28. 470 Florida (btwn 17th and Mariposa). Info/tix: 399-1809; [www.thumpradio.com](http://www.thumpradio.com); [www.atjt.com](http://www.atjt.com)

### Eureka Theater

Brava! for Women in the Arts presents Culture Clash in "Mission Magic Mystery Tour," directed by Max Ferá, with video by Lourdes Por-

tillo. From new dot-commers to old commies — a portrait of the most vibrant barrio: The Mission District. \$20/\$30 Fri. & Sat.; \$18/\$26 Thu. & Sun.; \$18/\$24 Wed. 8pm (3pm Sunday matinee). 215 Jackson St. (at Battery & Front). Tix: 392-4400; [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com); [www.brava.org](http://www.brava.org)

### Crucible Steel Gallery

Opening reception: "Corpus Optics," an exhibition of challenging photography by Bill Daniel, Victoria Mara Heilwell, and Isaac Immanuel. The human body serves as the unifying theme. Piles of punks, goofy dancers, and long-gone demolition sites fill Daniel's "Golf Course Serenade." Detailed body examinations appear in Heilwell's work; and Immanuel's mixed-media work is inspired by his study of Butoh ritual theater. Free. 6-9pm. 2050 Bryant St. Info: 648-7562.

### Tongue and Groove

From the People's Republic of Boulder, Colorado comes Chupacabra ("goat sucker" in Spanish), a terrific six-member world/Latin funk ensemble. The band plays an upbeat, infectious fun, highly danceable eclectic potpourri of salsa, samba, reggae, afropop, and '70s-era jazz-funk, their style rooted in the sounds of Brazil, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, West Africa, Europe and the US. Their 90 minute set starts at 10pm. Also on the bill is Idle Time. \$7 \$4 10pm \$10 after. 2511 Van Ness Ave. [www.chupacabra.cc](http://www.chupacabra.cc)

### Space550

Thump Radio welcomes Tokyo DJ Double Dragon (Phantasm Records, UK), spinning trance in the main room along with stellar DJs Dutch (Thump Radio), Luka (Redtribe, SF), and Captain Neo (Braindrops, SF). Jungle returns with the Groundscore Showcase of drum & bass, featuring Echo (Phunkateck/Phylum) and 4Real (Breakbeat Science, NYC), plus local Groundscore crew Star Eyes, Siren, Genome, and Kei. Downtempo Chill Chamber by Masonic and Dob (Thump Radio), J Stone (Miscellaneous Groove), and Nikita (Red Tribe, SF). \$20 door. 21+ with ID. 550 Barnevel St. Dance Safe. Make sure to check your pockets before entering the venue. Info: 441-1899; [www.thumpradio.com](http://www.thumpradio.com); [www.space550.com](http://www.space550.com)

### King Street Garage

"Club Asia," featuring hot, hot go-go dancers gyrating to the Hi-NRG and trance beats spun by stellar DJ Matt Consola. This is the bi-monthly

party (2nd & 4th Friday of each month) where Asians and their admirers are joined by all types of people for a great night of dancing. \$10. 10pm-4am. 174 King Street (at 3rd St.). Info: 285 2742.

## Sat 13

### Theatre Rhinoceros

Opening night: Eugene Ionesco's absurdist classic play *Rhinoceros*, directed by Colman Domingo, set in the Mission District of contemporary San Francisco. Bay Area actress Alexis Lexin stars in the traditionally male role of Beranger, a malcontented employee of a not-for-profit organization, whose life is turned upside down when the people around her start turning into Rhinoceroses. Theatre Rhino favorite P.A. Cooley stars as her friend Jean, a budding Rhinoceros. \$25 opening night; \$15 Wed., Thu., & Sun. (matinees & evenings). \$20 Fri. & Sat. Thru Feb. 10. Located at 2926 16th St. (btwn Mission & S. Van Ness). Tix: 861-5079.

### ODC Theater

Ohio Dance Theatre presents its theatrical dance work "Umoja" in celebration of Black History Month. The piece incorporates dance, vocals, drumming and narratives to celebrate the triumph of the human spirit, beginning with the years of the great oppression and the Underground Railroad, to the Harlem Renaissance period into the present. Choreographed and scripted by ODT Artistic Director Denise Gula. \$15. 8pm. One night only. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix: 863-9834.

### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Rancho San Antonio Open Space hike and enjoy the fresh air, exercise and adventure. It's a moderate 11-12 mile hike with a 1,000-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:45am under the big Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Club info: 487-6410; [www.sfhiking.com](http://www.sfhiking.com)

### Grupo Socio-Cultural Hispano

This social group for all Spanish-speaking gay men meets for what may be its last fiesta and potluck. The group has met month after month for years, but with former president Javier Jimenez having completed his term with distinction, no one has stepped forward to take his place. If the group is to continue, volunteers are needed to handle organiza-



Rajendra Serber is GoodGuy in the RK Corral's *GoodGuy/BadGuy* at The Lab. See Thursday

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Sara Felder, Lisa Geduldig, Dan Rothenberg and Jeff Razz do their comedy schtick in *Borscht Belt by the Bay* at A Traveling Jewish theatre. See Friday.

tion and logistics. Today's potluck will be held in a private home on upper Market St. Bring drinks, desert, salad, or *plato fuerte*. Donations requested (free for those bringing main courses). 6-7:30pm arraival; 7:30-8:30 meal; 8:30-9:50 socializing. 3074 Market St. (btwn Hattie & Danvers). Info: Felipe at 285-0719 or Andy at 522-1894.

## Sun

**PFLAG/St. Francis Lutheran Church**  
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) hosts a panel discussion with speakers from the offices of local, regional and national legislators addressing the question "What Challenges Lie Ahead in The New Millennium?" for GLBTQ communities? Free. 2pm PFLAG Support Group meeting (open to all); 3-4pm program. 152 Church St. (at Market). Info: 921-8850; www.backdoor.com/pflag

### Old First Church

"Bay Area Japanese Music Summit 2001," featuring traditional and new Japanese music by koto masters, shakuhachi masters, a shamisen master, and the Murasaki Ensemble. \$9 (\$7 students/seniors). 2pm. 1751 Sacramento St. (at Van Ness). Info: 474-1608.

### Cat Club

New bi-monthly after-hours queer club: "Bump," featuring hi-energy and trance music by DJ/producer Frank Abraham (Circuit 2K; TranceXstacy). Introducing "upcoming cute young DJ" Jason G, who "has been guided by DJ Phil B and has performed at Blue." The promoter promises "lots of cute boys and men." \$9. 3:30am-10am. 1190 Folsom St. (at 8th St.).

### Howard Thurman Ritual Center, Oakland

Matthew Fox and friends present "Techno Cosmic Mass: Sacred Cosmos, Sacred Psyche," an evening of ecstatic music and dance incorporating urban shamanism, multimedia imagery, Eastern, Western, and indigenous spiritual elements to create a multicultural, in-

tergeneration and ecumenical form of worship. \$10 suggested. 6:30pm. 1933 Broadway Ave., Oakland (at 19th St. BART). Info: (510) 835-4827; www.creation-spirituality.com

## Mon

### Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret

QComedy.com presents "Gay Comedy Showcase at Piaf's," this week hosted by New York City performer The Goddess Perlman ("Ode to Ally McBeal"), featuring the comedic talents of Helen Slayton-Hughes, Chantal, Erin Souza, Paul Olson, David Guiney, Bridget Schwartz and more. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Info: 541-5610.

## Tue

### Venue 9

"Women's Work 2001" presents a showcase of works-in-progress by local women



*Torn Curtain, Window, California, 1992*, gelatin silver print, by Rod Dresser. Reception and booksigning 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13 at Scott Nichols Gallery, 49 Geary St., 4th floor. Info: 788-4641.

artists, writers, dancers, musicians and actors. Tonight featuring Thessaly Lerner (one-woman comedy), Jenice Acosta (choreography for three), Strong Current Dance Co. (works that comment on women's roles in society), and Shona Curley (music for dance). \$8-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252 9th St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). Info: 289-2000; www.ftloose.org

## Wed

### Eureka Valley/Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library

K.M. Soehnlein, author of *The World of Normal Boys: A Novel*, will speak about his debut book on growing up as a gay teen. Film critic Robert Julian described the book as "a work of authenticity." Free. 7pm. 3555 16th St. (btwn Market & Sanchez). Info: 554-9445.

### Herbst Theatre

City Arts & Lectures presents an evening with artist Wayne Thiebaud in conversation with New Yorker writer Adam Gopnik.

Thiebaud is celebrated for his stylized, plunging SF cityscapes and signature "Californian" style featuring intense light and color. The Legion of Honor recently celebrated his 80th birthday with a retrospective. \$17. 8pm. Info: 392-4400.

## Thu

### The Lab

The RK Corral's "GoodGuy/BadGuy," a still-photography-based space western integrated into highly physicalized live performances by actor/dancers Kristin Lemberg, Rajendra Serber, Donald Eugene Nutella III, Counte Dante, and musicians Cheryl Leonard, John Blue and Kenny Annisk. GoodGuy/BadGuy, reigns over a flat Earth, where everyone has television within themselves and an unquestioning grasp of good and bad. He abandons the town, deprives it of its notions of good and bad, and unleashes a series of absurdly ominous events climaxing in a revolt by mutant cows. \$7-\$15 sliding. 9:30pm. Also on Jan. 12, 20, 25, 26 & 27. 2948 Sixteenth St. Info: 864-8855; www.RKcorral.com

### Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

In concert: Internationally acclaimed cellist and former Kronos Quartet member Joan Jeanrenaud, currently Watis Artist-in-Residence at YBCA. On the program are *The Song of Songs*, a 1996 composition for cello by Karen Tanaka; Philip Glass' 1988 keyboard piece *Metamorphosis*, arranged for cello in 1999 by Jeanrenaud; Mark Grey's *Blood Red*, written in 2000 for Jeanrenaud; and the world premiere of *Altarpiece* by Jeanrenaud. With video projections by Bay Area artists Chris Shine, Monty Thompson, Jeff Darby, Michele Clement and Seoungcho Cho. An informal discussion with the cellist follows. \$10 gen'l.; \$8 Center members. 7pm. Forum, YBCA, 701 Mission St. Info/tix: 978-ARTS (2787); www.YerbaBuenaArts.org

### City Nights

"Club Faith" resident DJs Blackstone, Ruben Mancias and Jay-R create "A Family Celebration of Vibe and Beat" for all 18+ boys, girls, men, women, clubkids, partykids, ravers, drag queens, muscle queens and assorted others. The club is divided into two main dance-floor spaces, with several hangout areas, a full bar, and over-looking balconies. The main room mixes up all styles of house and progressive music. The front room spins the favorites of R&B and hip hop. \$10. 9:30pm-3am. 715 Harrison @ 3rd. Info: 905-4100.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

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The cost is \$1.99 per minute and you may use your Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express card. You will be able to respond, browse, and retrieve messages by using your Block of Time™ account from any touch-tone phone!

## PARTING GLANCES

**"Fuzzylogic" Opening 11/17**  
You were upstairs. Me down. We smiled. No time then to talk. Have time now. Call me. ☎ 72651

**19 Polk 12:30 Tues 11/21**  
Blond, 30s, newspaper. You: 30s, also in leather jacket, v. handsome, sat w/me. Asked time, you thought I was leaving. U smiled, said "take care" when I did, ☎ Market. Mutual frisson? ☎ 72652

**Day 84 Tgiving Bart 1pm**  
You: tall, red shirt w/2 women. Me: shorter w/ lt. brown hair, glasses. You got off at 16th/ Mission & said "so long". Wanna meet? ☎ 72653

**12:25 Evening Air-Bart-Embarcadero**  
We sat opposite each other. You: green army pants/Banana Republic sweatshirt. Me: black jeans/jacket. Noticed your growing bulge. Want to do something about it? Call! ☎ 72743

**The Cafe, Sat Nov. 25**  
You: cute smile blue shirt, dark hair goatee, pool table upper bar. Me: blk hair, blk goatee dk red sweater w/stripes. Would like to see you again, call me. ☎ 72699

**Just Back From New Zealand 11/27**  
We sat next to each other on the plane from LA to SF. Would like to talk to you again. ☎ 72726

**Blow Buddies Sun Nov 19**  
You: No clothes, shaved head, goatee, working over stud on chair. Me: bushy moustache, Levis, green, blue coca-cola sweatshirt. Let's meet? ☎ 72655

**The Rhino, 10/15 Matinee**  
You: Tall Asian in khaki cap, sat with friends. Me: White in purple shirt, sitting alone. Exchanged glances in the theatre, waved afterwards walking away. ☎ 72656

**18th & Castro Shirtless Dancer Oct 31**  
You were on bus stop booth with no shirt, dancing. It was Castro Hal-loween. I screamed at you. I wore a devil shirt. Interested? ☎ 72680

**A. H. Fitzgerald**  
We shared one afternoon of unbridled passion in S.F. Circumstances stopped me from contacting you afterward. Hoping rekindle the flame. C. ☎ 72657

**Home Depot Sun 11/26 8:30am**  
You: tall, dark, thin, white sweat-pants. Me: short, dark, moustache, jeans. Too struck by your good looks to speak. Call if ok with HIV+ men. ☎ 72658

**Met At Powerhouse!**  
You, blond, 23, Musician, DJ, Dot-com me, 53, Provincetown, Howard Johnson's. Let's create magic. ☎ 72681

**Fifth & Sixth Fused**  
Maybe more in common. Three of us in your Miata from Power Exchange to my house. Wanted you to stay. ☎ 72700

**Thurs 12/21 18+ Church 3pm**  
You cute Latino. Me tall blonde Berkeley student. We tried but 3rd party interrupted. Let's try again. You call the shots... ☎ 72762

**UCBerkeleyPerimeterBus 12/7/5p**  
Our stop Bart. Me: jeans, grey coat guy with friend in back. You: grey sweater, cargo pants guy. Our eyes met. You smiled as you left the bus and I smiled. ☎ 72701

**White Vespa Boy, One Year Ago**  
Eastbound on 18th, late afternoon 12/21/99. Me: leather jacket, Honda, spaced when you pulled over despite your sparkling fuck-me stare. Call if this isn't too bizarre (or bizarre enough). ☎ 72702

**Vincent-Thu 11/30 Daddys+Detour**  
We talked about movies and I enjoyed kissing you. Your are very cute. I would still like to watch "Less Than Zero", with you, maybe more kissing too! Pls call. Eric. ☎ 72703

**SFO Open House Lufthansa**  
You busy stamping passports. Me with friend and not able to say hello. Too late to get my stamp? How about coffee or dinner? ☎ 72724

**Davis, Nurse, Live By Ocn Bch**  
We went out a few years ago. Saw you at Stacey's Books last month-wanted to say hi, but didn't know how to start; can we have coffee? Ken. ☎ 72725

**Eye Contact, "The Bar"**  
You Italian-Latin we made eye contact at "The Bar", 12/9 said hi when I saw you walking on Castro w/my roommate. Dinner? ☎ 72727

**Castro Starbucks 12/23**  
Me, black shirt, goatee, book. You: blue shirt, dark hair, book. My title: "Too shy to talk." Yours? Can we compare notes? ☎ 72744

**Leather Buddies-Wed. 12/27**  
You: Short Asian, medium build, black leather vest. Me: White, bare bottomed, slim & smooth - serviced you. Talked, but no phone # asked, let's meet elsewhere. ☎ 72763

**New Years At Club Universe**  
Back room. You, cute boy in black. Me, feather mask, confetti thrower dancing with friend. Gave you string necklace and hug. Gotta have you! ☎ 72764

**Sun 11/26 Jubilee Cafe**  
You in yellow shirt, if not engaged, would like to meet! ☎ 72654

**Supershuttle To SFO, Fri 12/22 10:30am**  
We shared the seat behind the driver. You were going to NY. I was going to Chicago. A woman talked about disadvantaged kids in LA. Want to meet for coffee? ☎ 72659

**Barnes & Noble 12/30**  
You: carrying backpack. I smiled at you a few times and all the way down the escalator. Want to meet for tea/coffee? ☎ 72766

**Sean- Saturday Night 12/30 Stud**  
We met outside Sugar and each thought we were familiar. I looked for you on the dance floor in hopes to continue our conversation. Any chance we still can? R. ☎ 72767

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**How About Some Bump & Grind?**  
GBM top 50 needs GBM bottom 50ish for hot sex and hanging out at my place, must be beefy and enjoy taking it. Smoke and aroma A+. ☎ 72660

**Intelligent BDSM in Oakland**  
Seeking fit submissive, little experience ok. mild start, gradual progression per mutual interests. Substance more than image. Sex unlikely, no drugs. Fit solid WM 54, 5'8" bald, beard. ☎ 72661

**Lonely? Looking For A Friend?**  
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165# in San Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. ☎ 72705

**Seeking Big Ones**  
Handsome GWM-blk/hazel: great body. Sweet ass. Seeks GWM with a big fat one to plow me, deep & slow. No disappointments. ☎ 72662

**Nellie Top ISO LTR**  
Single GWM 50's HIV- top fra/p 6' 200# smoker non gym big hearted, grounded looking for single gay male w/good nature and cut tool for BJ, ass plowing, romance. ☎ 72663

**GWM, 25, 6'2", Slim, Attractive**  
W/ quick, cynical mind, wildly varied interests, seeks similar: HIV-, don't need to respond to ads, mature. No Castro clones, good personality, be interesting. 23-27. ☎ 72664

**Not Looking For A 10**  
Not even a 7. What I am looking for is an average guy 30 & 40? Oriental? White? This 48yr. W/M in SJ. would like to meet you. Let's do some dating and if it works out, start a long term relationship. You must be willing to relocate. ☎ 72682

**HIV+ Black Male Or Latino**  
Wanted by HIV+ blond/blue 5'10", 150lbs versatile bottom. 44yrs genuinely honest and loving, you be the same, I live in Paradise near Chico, am willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 72683

**Seeking Other Hardbodies**  
5-9 145 38c 29" w wash brd. abs smooth, tan, handsome, 47y.o. seeks same for ltr. Sex, & wrk out. ☎ 72684

**Monogamous Muscular Man**  
Seeks GM for dating in S.F. I'm Asian, young 50, 5'7", 150#, HIV-neg., into working out, body worship/tit play. NS, ND, no anal. ☎ 72687

**Looking For Real Nice Fun Mate**  
Handsome, youngish, HIV- 35 GWM/ half Colombian. Fun, cuddly, spontaneous sagitarian. Slim, drk brn. You: late 20's-30's, handsome, light eyes, Northern Europeanish, tall, lanky, gentlemanly, monogamous. No heavy drugs. ☎ 72688

**"Rich Gold Gym Dude!"**  
You have come over to my apartment on Parker Avenue. Somehow, I didn't have chance to talk to you. I would like to meet you again. Please call. P.S. would you mind collecting my English? ☎ 72704

**Heart & Soul Hunk. Amen!**  
Bubbly quick-witted unpretentious, 37, 6'1", 175# br/rg clean shaven, Dutch background, HIV-, Publishing Entrepreneur, own flat, hike, swim, cook, massage, cocktail, cuddle, versatile. Artistic sensibility. Well-endowed in more ways than one. ☎ 72659

**Hot!, Hot!, In Antioch**  
I will close the curtains, light a couple of candles as you sit on the bed showing me your big dick. I will model around showing you my fine clean ass as we enjoy a cocktail, smoke, music. I am 38yr. old, horny Frenchman, handsome. You may be average but have a hot cock. ☎ 72746

**SF 69er Sought**  
Me: GWM 49 5'9" lean athletic (runner, hiker) 6' cut HIV- bearded bald witty friendly enjoys quiet. Seeks: similar clean, low-key younger man for mutual oral sex. ☎ 72706

**Easteuro Man Seeking Thai Man**  
In shape, 38 years, 5'8", about 164# Eastern European man seeking Thai man about my age (30-40). ☎ 72728

**Loved To Be Fucked**  
By Asian and Latino men on LTR. I'm 6'2", GWM 165lbs. You won't be disappointed. We can have sex many times in the future. Yours. ☎ 72729

**Seeking Asian Boyfriend**  
Muscular GWM 43, sensitive, in very good shape is wishing to date a smooth, in-shape Asian 25-50. No games or B.S. Please only serious minded, long term. ☎ 72689

**HIV+ Black Men Or Latino**  
Wanted by HIV+ blond/blue 5'10", 150lbs versatile bottom. 44yrs genuinely honest and loving, you be the same, I live in Paradise near Chico, am willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 72730

**Hi, My Name Is Ralph J. Torres**  
I am looking for someone between 18-24 years old. I am a bi-male. I am a top looking for a bottom that love sex. ☎ 72731

**I Know You're Out There!**  
Handsome, healthy, HIV-, successful, 40-something, muscular guy, 5'10", 165lbs, who enjoys life with comic intensity. Looking for someone my age or younger for passionate relationship. ☎ 72732

**Stocky WM, 48 Seeks BM Within SF, Bay Area**  
Professional home-loving guy with wide interests seeks same. HIV- 5'7", 220lbs. No substance abusers please. ☎ 72733

**Class Act 4 Same**  
GL professional, 50s, tall and shaved, bright, humorous and playful, enjoys cooking, theatre and the gays, sexually versatile, seeks man of quality for dating and ltr. Life is to share. ☎ 72734

**Younger Poz Bottom Sought**  
Black male; 5'10", 185, 43, dark, smooth, muscular, masculine, 32" waist, 44" chest, 43, nice body, quiet, mature man, seeks muscular poz bottom, 35 and under, for intimacy, warmth, closeness. ☎ 72745

**Hi My Name Is Ralph**  
I am looking for a girlfriend between 18-24. I am 40years old that love the Lord Jesus Christ in my life and, I have AIDS. ☎ 72747

**Top Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
GWM, HIV+, 36yrs, bottom, seeks HIV+. Hot top for erotic hot safe sex. Me, br, hzl, 6'1", love br, 50's but not required. ☎ 72690

**European GWM**  
29, 5'10", 165 seeking committed, honest, sensitive, intellectual GWM, 27-35 for monogamous ltr. No gym, dotcom, feminine types. Serious only! ☎ 72685

**Bruiser Bottom Wanted**  
Older but hung toman wants a husky bottom guy flat on his back, legs in the air, ready for a raw pounding. Moustache/ but no other facial hair/ a turn-on. ☎ 72686

**SR GWM Seeks M.O.C.**  
GWM in S.F. sincere fit bearded, 67, 5'9", 155# HIV neg. ND ISO mature masculine Black Latino, over 45 for erotic play, J/O. ☎ 72768

**Quality Asian-American, 34, 5'8"**  
Slim, gym-toned, independent, stable, down to earth. Interests include gardening, travel, reading, learning. Seeking friendship and possible ltr. Prefer 28-40. Race unimportant. Sincere only please. ☎ 72707

**Wanted: Cuddly SF Bear/Cub-GWM, 30-50, facial/body hair, versatile: share adventures, art, architecture, massage with GWM, 42, 6'3", hairy/beard, versatile, leather, professional. No smoke/drugs. ☎ 72769**

**Top Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
GWM, HIV+ 37yrs, bottom, seeks HIV+ hot top for hot erotic safe sex. Me: br, hzl, 6'1", love br, 50's but not required. No games apply. ☎ 72770

**Diaper Boy ISO A Daddy**  
LTR minded, only please. I am 38yo 5'11", 195 brown brn hzl/eyes looking for a dad that is strict but loving heavy A+ diaper spanking fun. ☎ 72771

**Kabuki Theater 12/31 3:30pm**  
Me: Asian w/baseball cap says "Canada". You: White w/glasses ☎ balcony. You gave me big smiles. I was way too shy to respond to you. Wish to meet you. ☎ 72772

**Santa Rosa Area Or SF On Wknds**  
Seeking other hardbodies. I'm 47, handsome, smooth 39" c, 29" w, w/b abs 5'9", 145#, sincere spiritual, strong, & loving, enjoy hot tub, massage & hot sex. ☎ 72773

**Dominant Masculine WM**  
Goodlooking man with hard bod, 5-10, 165, 40ish professional seeks young, HIV- cleancut, 18-39 sub-boys for fun, possible LTR. ☎ 72774

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**SR GWM ISO Mature GBM**  
For massage J/O, I'm 5'9" 155# affectionate average cut, bearded. You're 45+ fit/healthy. Medium to beefy. Shaved head, facial hair A+. ☎ 72665

**Have You Read...**  
Conjuring The Flesh or Apprenticed To Pleasure by Brandon Fox, "cool scene", isn't it? Group of images forming. Learn to touch the kel by understanding pleasure. Initiates wanted, call Ander to meet. ☎ 72748

# BAR TALK

## PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐  
 Seeking Relationship ☐  
 Seeking Adventure ☐  
 Lesbian ☐  
 Fetishes ☐  
 Couples ☐  
 Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**Into Rimming?**

Have a lover, seeking a rimming buddy for mutual ass eating. Me: GWM, 53yrs, 5'8", 175#. You: GWM and discreet. Clean, no scat, your place in SF only. HIV+. 72710

**Dominant Older Man Will Train**  
A gdlk's submissive 18-40 boy to serve him as a son or/and slave. Limbs respected. On-going preferred. Daddy-master is mid 70's, attr; young looking and acting. 72668

**Hunky Underwear Fanatic Sks Same**  
Hairy, built GWM seeks similar SF hunk for mutual underwear fetishes, nip/ball work, long 69 sessions. I'm 5'11", 180, 50, totally oral, healthy poz. You're hairy chested, tall in shape, 40+, totally oral too. Prefer average size dick. Let's get it on while wearing, trading, sniffing, talking about our boxers, briefs, jockstraps. Repeat desired if chemistry, attraction, compatibility. 72669

**I Love My Dad/ 5'9" 200lbs 42**  
GWM seeks very hairy daddy-types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. 72670

**Looking To Service Older Guys**  
Healthy HIV+ GWM, 40, br/bl, 165lbs, 5'8" in Oakland, wants to service guys 46-60. Muscular, hairy, hung, well-built A+. 72671

**Kinda Shy Guy**  
HIV+ Black male, 42, medium build, enjoy movies, dancing, walks at night, playtime-always! Looking for 38-up, HIV+ males looking for someone like me. All types welcome. 72672

**Free Massage**  
From bottom daddy, GWM, 42, 6', 165lbs. Ital/Germ, brown/hazel, beard given to lean top boy 18-35. Dark hair and/or facial hair a plus. 72691

**Bodybuilder Phone J/O**  
Bodybuilder into bodywork, musclex, flexing. Posing, weightlifting, wrestling, in jock or posing trunks, nude. Call with your fantasy. 5'9", 195, 46ch, 16a. 72666

**East Bay Mature Academic**  
Appreciative of nude male body seeks gay, straight, bi exhibitionist or curious, 25-50, for private encounters his peaceful private home. 72692

**Heavyset Men**  
WLM 45, 160lbs, moderately hry. I'm attracted to husky/heavyset men who enjoy lots of hugging, kissing & oral action. Facial hair A+. Not into gay lifestyle. 72693

**GAM 30's Back In Town**  
Looking for GWM 30-43 for hot times. If interested please call. 72694

**Bottom Need's F.F**  
Ball's need S/M, be tormented, ass needs spanking and exploring. I am clean HIV- bi WM 5'2", 120 shaved, and a experienced cocksucker, stay over nite. Sacramento, aroma/herbs L/A ok. 72708

**Sexy Older (54-67) For Cute 28**  
East Bay, athletic, slim, trim, 6', 160# with satin smooth skin and bubble buns youngest 28 seeks naughty older men. Younger Latinos welcome. 72709

**A Rubbery Adventure**  
Attractive blonde, mid 40's, HIV positive, seeks similar W/male to explore the rubber scene. I've got lots of leather-and rubber gear. You should too. East Bay/S.F. 72711

**Dry Face Needs Hot Cum Bath**  
Masculine WM 58 seeking senior citizens. Let me get between your legs and jerk off your cock directing your cum all over my face. 72712

**I'm Lost In Orlando!**  
Formerly known as "Pete" in the window on Sanchez Street, I have relocated to Orlando. If you're planning to visit, leave me a message. I'll give you what you need! 72713

**Dominant Male, 39 Seeking**  
Part time house slave. Must be detail oriented & eager to please. Age & looks not important. 72714

**Big, Husky, Chubby, Fat**  
GBM, 47yo, 5'11", 250lbs, big chest, hung seeks big, fat, & chubby men for uninhibited sex. You must be my size or bigger. Discretion a must. 72715

**Big Dick Top Seeks Hot Bottom**  
GWM, 45, 6'3", 185 brn, gm with big fat dick looking for cute guys who like a big cock up their butt. 72716

**Handsome Slim Dad, 54, Holds U**  
And carresses you. You blow me. I put it in you if you want it. Masturbate you & kiss you. Young, slim only. 72717

**Flood Bldg Buddy Wanted**  
Professional GWM, working in Flood Building, is looking for a building buddy for AM coffee, drinks after work, sex over lunch (not necessarily in that order). 72718

**"Got Cheese!"**  
GWM 50, 6' loves man smells any age race. 7" or more. Long over hang a real plus. 72667

**Kick Back And Enjoy**  
Free erotic massage and/or oral service by muscular, handsome, long-haired GWM. Trim or in shape a must, longhair or alternative types A+. I'm a nice guy. UB2. 72735

**I Like Sensual Bondage**  
Lean, athletic, friendly guy, 45, seeks partner for sensual bondage, flogging, role playing. Reciprocation if desired. 72736

**FF Top Want FF Bottom**  
SWM 50's HIV- looking for FFB GWM HIV- for pleasure and fun- aroma-herb ok- 72737

**Athletic, Masculine, Witty, Asian, 53, 5'8", 155, seeks similar clean-shaven, lean/muscular, in-shape WM for adventurous companion and fun times. 72738**

**Bi Black Man**  
I am 46 year old, non smoker or drug. I need someone, any race with big 8+ men for long ltr. 72739

**Attractive, Smooth, Athletic Asian**  
Guy wants to receive long firm, erotic, full body, head to toe oil massages from experienced or licensed masseurs. I enjoy having my chest, butt, legs, cock, balls, etc. massaged. I also enjoy bondage; having my hands and feet tied up while massaged, etc. 72740

**East Bay**  
Appreciative, mature Academic male seeks Gay, Straight, Bi, exhibitionist or curious, 25-50 for private encounters at his home. 72749

**Mine's Big**  
Looking for someone who can take it. Looking for someone who can handle it. Looking for someone who can go all night long. Seach me, 24/7. Raging. 72750

**Oakland Guy**  
36, shaved cock and balls, HIV+, seeks other positive guys for mutual oral and J/O. Prefer cut cocks and shaved. Let's have some fun. 72751

**Mature Masculine Submissive**  
Seeks dominant top 40+ for erotic BD/SM play. Sub is intelligent, experienced, imaginative. 72752

**Great Downtown Head**  
GWM 50, not gym toned, gives excellent head to hung men over 8" any age, race. I am 6', 188lbs, brn, handsome and love oral sex. 72753

**I Need A Slow Hand**  
Boysish Asian seeks the strong hands of a smooth gym toned GM or AM to massage my full body. Enjoy hot tubing too. 72754

**Naked On Your Knees**  
Are you masculine and submissive with a tight trim body from 20 to 44? Would you like to take orders for some role playing fun with a trim dominant WM 43? 72755

**Seeking A Very Well Hung Stud**  
Nice-looking White bottom, seeking nice looking White or Latino top 18-40 with nice looking body, huge thick dick to get together to fuck my tight hot asshole good. 72756

**Hot Bottoms Wanted**  
By White top 56yrs old 6' 160lbs. brn/bm glasses big 9" cut cock wants to fuck young bottoms ages 18-39. Be hot & smooth bodied. 72757

**2001 Is For Great Sex! ISO Top**  
For serious oral servicing. I'm 48, 5'8", hairy chest, tall and lean with long-distance lover. UB clean, in-shape take control guy up for some discrete fun. 72759

**Tit Play Zaps My Dick & Brains**  
Yours too? Let's do each other's easy and rough till totally crazed. Musts: hairy, inshape, 40+, tall, GWM, SF. 72760

**I Love My Big 5'9" 200lbs 42**  
GWM seeks very hairy daddy types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. 72761

**Hairless Bubblebutt Bottom**  
Wanted by WM 48, 6' 175 gym toned with nice dick & ass top HIV+. Be in shape. I am Asian, Black rimmers A+++. 72765

**Palo Alto Asian Male 44 5'11"**  
190 blk-brn likes to suck cock that doesn't get rock hard for me to deep throat. Prefer Peninsula area and between 3pm to 10pm your place. 72766

**South Bar**  
58, 1k younger, 6', 212, shavedhead & body, uninhibited, sub, bottom seeks dom. top(s) to play with, 50-70, cauc, sincere, exper. your place. 72777

**Straight**  
Looking for hot straight cocks to suck on by two deep-throat experts. Good-looking and Latinos are a plus. 72778

**HelpMeFromThisTorturesExdesire**  
Oversized x-tra smooth GAM 37, 220, 5'8" seeks open minded men 18-45 for ongoing sex action only. Your place weekdays. Discretion guaranteed. No drugs. Serious only. 72779

Safe sex is hot sex! 72779

**Ties And Toes All Goers**  
I have a heart for all that blows. I'm a 5'6" bottom and like all. Please give it to me. 72758

**FETISHES**

**Diaper Boy ISO Daddy LTR**  
I am 38yo Irish, 5'11" 190 brown hair, hxl eyes seeking a daddy. You be over 45 heavy or stocky, like diaper boys, spanking fun. 72673

**Big & Smelly Feet Wanted**  
By 27yo Latino foot bottom. I'll suck and worship your feet while you jerk-off. I love dick too. Please be masculine with big feet. 72674

**Body Shaving**  
Part or complete your limits respected free no money exchanged either way. Just enjoyment. Concord area leave message. 72677

**Paddle Poker**  
Boots, jockstraps, frat paddles. High hand gives, low hand gets. Group forming. All men into paddling welcome. 72678

**Sexy Big And Black**  
If you are Black, horny, big chested and ready for some hot fun, I'm ready for you. I'm hot, handsome and hungry for a big Black man. 72695

**Knocked Around And Bruised**  
And humiliated and degraded. That's what this slim healthy 58-years old needs from in-charge guy. You come and I take it and don't come. 72697

**Mutual Spanking...**  
Hard, bare-hand slapping & strapping partner wanted. 50's man 5-7, 165. We leave marks. 72720

**Turtleneck Sweaters**  
Winter's almost here and it's my time of year. Nothing gets me off more than guys with facial hair in ribbed turtlenecks. Looking for others who share this fetish. 72721

**Can You Provide?**  
GWM 40, 175, 6'1", VGL ISO young raunch top to use & abuse me. Verbal & uncut A+. Into sweat, snot, cum, WS, & a ripe hole to worship. River location. 72723

**Holiday Pounds Adding Up?**  
Chubby? Sticky? Got a belly? Trim encourager seeks guy who wants to grow a gut. Let me feed you. Forget fit, I like you fat. 72675

**Asshole Rimmer Wanted By WM**  
47, 6', 170 exc shape HIV+. You must be bottom. Prefer Black, Asian HIV+. 72722

**Daytime Asshole Eater!!**  
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!!! 72696

**Spanking/Discipline**  
I am a strict, no-nonsense dad type who administers real discipline/punishment welcome. Must meet at your place. 72741

**New Year Wish List**  
WM seeks senior citizen with senior friends who can put together a J/O party with my face on receiving end of shot after shot of hot cum. 72742

**Hungry Fist Seek Pig Hole**  
29yo, fit seeks exp. bottoms into heavy duty punch fucking. Let's turn your hole into a loose sloppy wet mess and make those lips sag and rosebud bloom. 72719

**Seeking Serious Workout Buddy**  
I'm a 46yr old stocky 190# serious nip-pig with huge erect nipples. Brn/bm, salt & pepper, tats & piercings, smoker ISO super masc. muscular dominant nip pig "daddy" for serious wk outs with growth in mind. Please call- smoker +++. 72780

**Seeking Serious Workout Buddy**  
I'm a 46yr. old stocky 190# serious nipple-pig with huge erect nipples. Brn/bm, salt & pepper, tats & piercings, smoker ISO sufer masc, muscular dominant nip pig "daddy" for serious wk outs. with growth in mind. Please call. Smoker +++. 72676

**Ski Mask Bandit**  
White punk, 28, wears ski masks, derby jackets, swallows big cocks. Cholos, blue collars, kinky tops, boot stompers only. 72781

**Big Bro With Firm Hand**  
Me: 36yo big bro type, 5'11", 185, warm, honest, skilled. You: 18-40 yo in reasonable shape who needs to be spanked. Genuine, no-nonsense discipline to erotic play. 72782

**Favorite Uncle Seeks Butt**  
Energetic favorite uncle type seeks masculine nephews 20-40 with munchable muscle butts. Pure hot pleasure by a pro. 72783

**OTHER**

**Walking/Hiking**  
Recent non-smoker, 44, seeks companion on rural hikes and urban walks. 72679

**Take Turns. Mature Competitions.**  
Two men, naked in close proximity, spank & slap hard & firm each other's buttocks. Other eroticism encouraged. TT & CB etc. 72698

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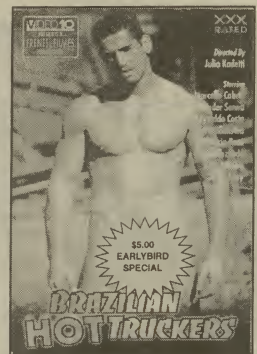
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# The best and the greatest

## Superlative collections are out on CD

by Gregg Shapiro

No matter what you call them, "Hits" collections are a way for music collectors to have all of the most popular singles by their favorite artists on one disc. These compilations are also a way for a record label to make a little extra money off an artist's back catalog.

A number of greatest hits discs have been released this year, and here a few of the more interesting ones.

Even though the words "greatest" and "hits" don't appear in the title of *One* (Capitol) by the Beatles, it's a Greatest Hits collection if there ever was one. This single-disc collection is comprised of 27 singles released between 1962 ("Love Me Do") and 1970 ("The Long and Winding Road") that reached the Number One spot on either the US or UK charts (or both), and it perfectly illustrates the changes that occurred in rock music during that very short period of time, and the part that the Beatles played in the evolution. Clocking in at almost 79 minutes, this compendium of essential Beatles songs such as "She Loves You," "I Wanna Hold Your Hand," "Yesterday," "Eleanor Rigby," "Penny Lane," "Hey Jude," "Something," "Come Together," and "Let It Be," to mention a few, is as valuable to the average or obsessive Beatles fan as it is to the uninitiated. Beatles fans have young children or nieces and nephews, don't they?

I'm sure that the only people more surprised than Lenny Kravitz that his *Greatest Hits* (Virgin) disc debuted at Number Two on the pop chart are the folks at this record label. If it happened based on his current single (and the only newly recorded song for the album), "Again," then there's no accounting for taste. "Again" doesn't hold a candle when compared to Kravitz's trademark clas-



LENNY KRAVITZ GREATEST HITS

sics, such as "Are You Gonna Go My Way," "Fly Away," "It Ain't Over 'til It's Over," "I Belong to You," "Believe," his first hit single "Let Love Rule," and his remake of The Guess Who's "American Woman." Whatever the reason, this is a Greatest Hits collection that actually contains genuine hits, and it deserves a place in your collection.

It's been 26 years since Warner Brothers released James Taylor's *Greatest Hits* album, which contained the beloved songs from the most prolific period in his career. In 1977, Taylor put out *JT*, the first of several albums he would record for Columbia Records. The 16 songs on *Greatest Hits Volume 2* (Columbia) represent those albums and the 20-year period that they cover. Beginning with three songs from *JT* ("Secret O' Life," "Your Smiling Face," and Taylor's cover of "Handy Man"), and continuing on to the albums *Flag* ("Up on the Roof," which was Taylor's second hit song written by Carole King), and *Dad Loves His Work* ("Her Town, Too," which was written at the time that his marriage to Carly Simon was coming to an end). His 1985 album, *That's Why I'm Here*, was probably the next-most popular album of his Columbia tenure after *JT*. There are four songs from that album (including the lovely title track and a cover of "Everyday"), while the title track to *Never Die Young* is the only selection from that album. There are three songs (including the powerful "Little More Time with You")

from his last studio album for Columbia, 1997's *Hourglass*, which many considered to be a return to form for Taylor.

### Lazy afternoon

I initially thought that Rupert Holmes' *Greatest Hits* (Hip-O) would only have novelty value, but I was wrong. Sure, the 18-track disc contains "Escape (The Pina Colada Song)," but you shouldn't dismiss it outright because of that. Although "Escape" is probably Holmes' best-known song and biggest hit, he actually had a couple of other songs that made the charts and sound pretty good from the distance of 20 years. "Him," for example, sounds like a decent song that earned its place in pop-music history. We also shouldn't forget that Barbra Streisand covered Holmes' "Widescreen" on her *Lazy Afternoon* record. We get to hear that song in its original version on this album. Although they are not included here, Holmes also wrote the songs "You've Got It All" (a hit for The Jets in 1987) and The Partridge Family song "Echo Valley 2-6809," as well as the Tony Award-winning book and score for *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, which starred Betty Buckley on Broadway.

On *Greatest Hits* (Asylum), gorgeous country singer Bryan White earned points in my book for covering "How Long," a song co-written by twins Andrew and David Williams, the nephews of crooner Andy Williams. David is openly gay, so that makes White's rendition that much more special. This album also includes White's duet with Shania Twain on her hit single "From This Moment On."

Now we come to the "best of" discs. Best, greatest, potato, potato.

Prior to her successful recording career on Epic Records, Patty Loveless recorded her late '80s and early '90s albums for MCA. *The Best of Patty Loveless* (MCA

Nashville) is where you will find a dozen of the songs that first introduced the woman with the "lonesome mountain sound" to country music lovers worldwide. Of particular interest are Loveless' versions of "Don't Toss Us Away" (also covered by Maria McKee and Lone Justice) and Matraca Berg's "I'm That Kind of Girl," and her Number One country hits "Chains" and "Timber, I'm Falling in Love."

### Sweet pop

Time Capsule: *The Best of Matthew Sweet 1990-2000* (Volcano) is the long-overdue hits compilation celebrating one of the most admired, yet underappreciated, singer/songwriters. Opening with four songs from his groundbreaking 1991 album *Girlfriend*, this collection is a must-have for lovers of flawless power-pop. One listen to "I've Been Waiting" and "Girlfriend" will remind you of how inescapable Sweet's superbly crafted pop melodies were almost 10 years ago. *Altered Beast*, the follow-up to *Girlfriend*, wasn't nearly as well received as its predecessor,

but the songs included in it, such as "Time Capsule," give an indication of what Sweet was trying to do, even if he didn't completely succeed. 1997's *100% Fun* was a return to form, and the brilliant "Sick of Myself" and "We're the Same" are proof. Sweet repeated the pattern with the less commercial *Blue Sky on Mars*, but redeemed himself with 1999's *In Reverse*, which has the wonderful single "What Matters" on it. The "Best of" album closes with two new tracks, "Ready" and "So Far," which bode well for the future.

Earlier last year, Private Music released *Taj Mahal: The Best of the Private Years*, which consisted of material from the blues legend's recent time spent on that label. *The Best of Taj Mahal* (Columbia/Legacy) goes way back to 1967 and up through 1974 to give listeners an even more historic background of Mahal's outstanding work, over the course of 17 songs. His version of "Corinna," included on the disc, has long been a personal favorite, as is "Farther on Down the Road," a song that Mahal co-wrote. ▼

## Bob Mackie

### ◀ Arts cover

expect, nightclub furniture?"

But, it was noted, this reputation has made him internationally famous. "Well," he said with a verbal shrug, "whatever."

Mackie doesn't like to talk about himself in starring-role terms. Tell him he has had an amazing career, and he replies, "It's been good." Ask if his parents, who died about five years ago, were proud of what he accomplished, he says, "I guess they were proud. They could see I was able to make a living."

### Drawing room

Mackie grew up in Los Angeles, and after his parents divorced when he was young, he was mostly reared by his grandparents. "I was the only child in the house, and I lived in an area where there wasn't anywhere to play," he said. "So I ended up sitting and drawing, and that became my hobby and eventually my profession."

Sometimes he'd design dresses for paper dolls for little shows he would produce on top of his chest of drawers. "My grandmother would see what I was doing, but she didn't get it. My parents didn't get it either. They'd just roll their eyes when I said I wanted to be a costume designer on Broadway when I grew up. But eventually somebody got it."

By the time he was 22, he was working as a sketch artist for Paramount Pictures. His big break came in 1963, when he was hired as an assistant costume designer for Judy Garland's now-legendary CBS series. "It was wonderful seeing performers like Lena Horne and Peggy Lee and Ethel Merman at their peaks, and watching Judy be really, really good. But there was a lot of waiting. Once she got on that stage, she usually was fine. Getting her out sometimes was not so easy."

The Garland show was more than a big career step for Mackie. Ray Aghayan, another costumer on the show, became Mackie's partner both in life and in business. "We've been together a long time, and let me tell you, some of

it ain't so easy," he said. "You get over one hump and you get a new hump."

But their relationship, both personal and professional, weathered a calamitous period in the early '90s. "I was overextended, there was a recession," Mackie said. "I lost my house, and we had to close the ready-to-wear business. My son died that year. It was a terrible time, really horrifying."

But work proved his salvation. He leapt at the chance to design Bette Midler's TV-movie version of *Gypsy*, and he threw himself into the day-to-day chores that some celebrity designers foist off onto assistants — his own experiences working as an assistant to design doyenne Edith Head at Paramount being a case in point.

### Hot rod

After all, Mackie worked for 11 years behind the scenes on *The Carol Burnett Show*, designing everything from the gowns Burnett wore to open the show to such memorable gag costumes as the curtain-rod dress in the classic *Gone With the Wind* parody.

"I've never lived a super-glamorous life," Mackie said. "I've been comfortable and I am comfortable, but I'm not pretentious about certain things. I started backstage where people are very real. They're just getting their job done."

Mackie was sitting at his drawing table as he spoke, soon to return to putting the finishing touches on his made-to-order fall collection. He's also getting back into the ready-to-wear business, which the well-dressed homemaker can wear in her Bob Mackie-furnished and -carpeted home. And then there are the theatrical projects he still manages to squeeze in.

"I would love to do more theatrical things, like operas and ballets," Mackie said, "but when you have a pretty full plate, you have to be careful what you accept. I won't just mail it in. I've never been able to do that." ▼

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John Hardy and 'girlfriend', Hampstead Arts Ball, 1955

## Dressing up

by Jim Provenzano

*Don We Now Our Gay Apparel: Gay Men's Dress in the Twentieth Century*, by Shaun Cole; Oxford Press

Shaun Cole's addition to the "Dress, Body, Culture" series put out by Oxford Press takes its chapter "You're Born Naked, the Rest is Drag" seriously. Several eras in gay culture's use of garb, as codes of identity and allure, are examined from a socio-cultural perspective. Harlem drag balls, hustler attitude, and femme and macho stylings offer a deeper woven fabric than meets an unobservant eye. We've certainly come a long way since Wilde's green carnations.

Gay style, that shifting peacock of trends, borrowed and borrowing, blossomed in myriad ways through our last century. With such a holiday tone implicit in its title, it's too bad this wasn't one of those glossy coffee-table books with more illustrations of the subject. Twenty-six black-and-white photos and illustrations of personal and pop culture style suffice

for most examples.

With essays like "Hell for Leather" and "Are You a Fag? Cos You Look Like a Fag!" this studious examination of macho dionedom, gender illusion/distortion, and Tom of Finland mythos dress codes proves accurate in examining some of our cross-cultural use of clothing to signify more than preferred positions.

Each essay focuses on various aspects of homo fashion, from Mod-era Milan as basket promoter, and beat culture's addition of brains and berets, to punk's utter queerness, no matter whom one slept with.

Thoroughly researched, the slim book is loaded with bibliographic references enough to make any MA candidate in costume or fashion design quiver.

Unfortunately it doesn't extend thoroughly into the post-Marky Mark/Abercrombie era of straight "boi" appropriation of African-American baggy pants chic, Sabatundie-mania, and Nike *et al.*'s transformation from exercise wear to evening wear. The trends Cole chooses, however, are nicely analyzed on an intellectual runway of ready-to-wear. ▼

## First Thursday

◀ page 28

Nathaniel Price. Multiple castings of the same larger-than-life male head, which twists and turns hopefully upward, are, according to the gallery, "a base vocabulary for the construction of metaphors on the subject of alienation and community." I found the artist's use of the written word, in tiny cursive manuscript on his heads and their accoutrements, as compelling as the compulsive scribbles of Tom Friedman at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. [Through January 31.]

A few blocks away and soon to close at Hosfelt Gallery (430 Clementina Street, near Fifth) is the recent work of architectural photographer Richard Barnes. The surprise here is that Barnes, who is well-known as the com-

mercial documentary photographer of the latest and the grooviest in architecture in the Bay Area and elsewhere, is not turning his lens on buildings. *Phylum: New Pictures* features breathtaking close-ups of natural history specimens: birds' nests, mummified dogs, and dusty bins and shelves in the back rooms of museums both in California and in Cairo.

Like Nigel Poor's exhibition of 365 *Found* photos, which just closed at Haines Gallery, Barnes' focus on the humble and neglected object instills it with a sense of dignity. Some of the gorgeous Iris prints are unglazed, and the subtle floral pattern of the black-on-black background heightens the lusciousness of the birds' nests in the foreground, enlarged to show details greater than any scientist could view through a microscope. [Hurry! Closes on January 20.] ▼

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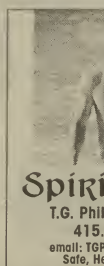


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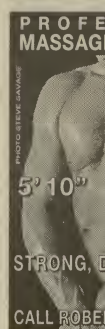
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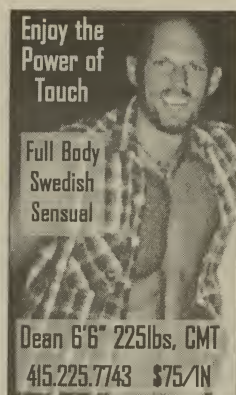
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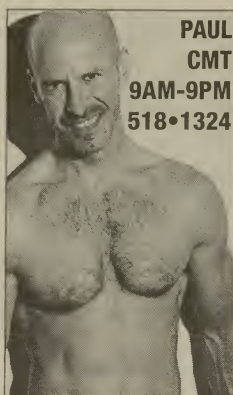
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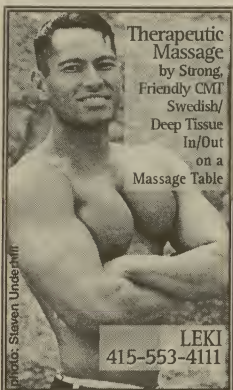
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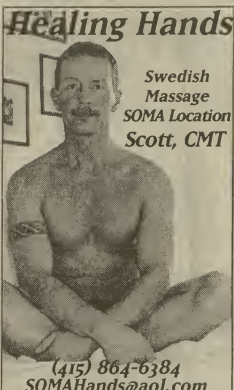
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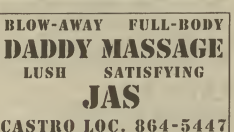


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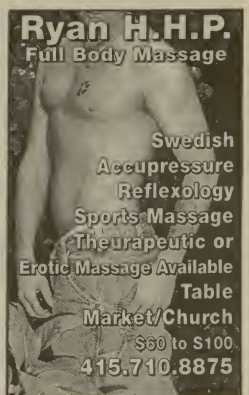


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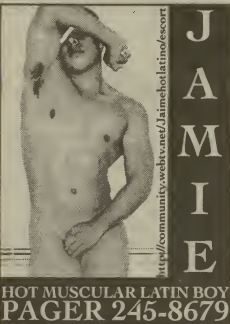


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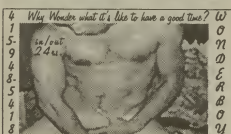
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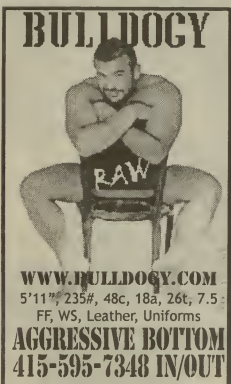
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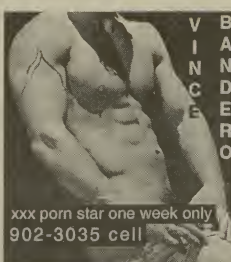
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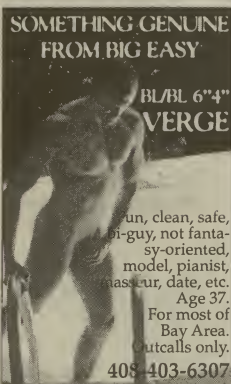
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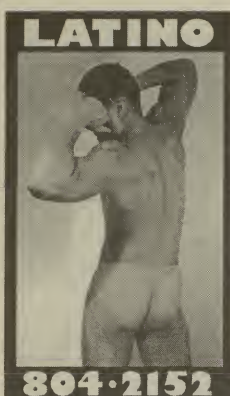
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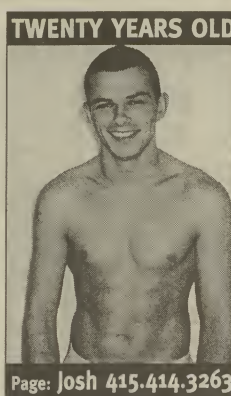
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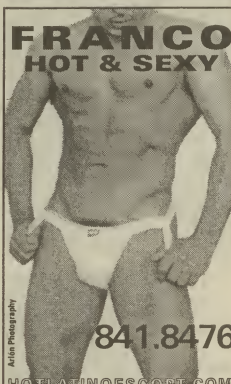
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**ANTONIO VEGA**  
New Falcon Model 1/25 - 2/7

30yo  
6", 185#  
9x6 Un/top  
In/Out

MOST SCENES: MILD TO WILD, KINK  
OR VANILLA, INCLUDE BUT NOT LIM-  
ITED TO: S/M, SPANKING, BT,TT,  
BODY WORSHIP, CALL ANYTIME!  
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**Dominant Leatherman**  
Bondage, 40yo,  
SM, WS, 6'1", 195#,  
CBT, Brown Hair,  
F/F, flat top,  
Slave, Blue Eyes,  
Training, mustache,  
7" Uncut.

**NEW NUMBER!**

**Beginners Welcome**  
Have equipment and playspace.  
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**CHAD**

6'4" 235 lbs  
Hung 9" & Cut

- 24 HOURS
- MASCULINE
- AGGRESSIVE
- VERBAL
- DOMINANT
- MOST SCENES
- STRICTLY TOP
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**COME TO DADDY**  
6'3", 225lbs, 17a, 48c, 25t  
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Verbal, Affectionate  
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8"x6"

Hot 27yo 6'2" 190#  
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Handsome & Sexy Butch  
5'9"-185#-Uncut-Tats  
Top FF+WS  
24hr. • 219-5034

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In/Out 6' 215#  
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**IN TOWN**  
10" - 17"  
ERIC - IN ONLY  
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9 1/2x 7 1/2" top-2 versatile- Clint  
GWM 40 gym toned, smooth, tan, cut  
hot butt. Lots of time. 864 2974

Hot black dominant top  
10in. uncut 5'6", 145, 28yo  
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Model with Click-NY known for  
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TV spots. Classic decathlon body,  
All-American, 6'3", 200lbs. Very  
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34years, sexually open 24hours  
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Smooth blonde green eyes 23 yo  
**SXY NEW BOYTOY**  
5'7" 135 looks very young & cute  
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**\*\*WHITE BOY\*\***  
Jay is back in town  
sexy, masculine, well built  
blonde with beautiful tool  
muscular legs and butt. Clean &  
discreet, for hot fun with no  
attitude. Call 415 948 8131  
Weekends and weekdays after 5pm

9" uncut, firm butt, 150lbs, 6'1"  
versatile. Phone 415-420-2581

It's time for some 1 on 1 with  
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Sexy blond jock with w/shbrd abs &  
Incredible pecs. 5'9", 165, 8-1/2".  
Tanned, masculine, & very  
handsome \$100/120.  
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Total top, 8x6, Dom/masc, friendly,  
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Wants to obey, submit  
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Live to service Men!  
Discreet & Passionate In/Out  
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Straight-acting bi top, 25, 6',  
165#, smooth, uncut, good-looking  
seeks subs to service me. In/out  
Antonio 415-225-8275

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Young tight and horny slave boy  
Outcalls only Shaun (415) 509-4224

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23 gorgeous & cleancut expert top  
6'x 165# swimmers build 9x6 cut!  
150, out! hottubs serious only!!!  
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Visiting SF for a short time  
call Rob 24/7 for blonde blue  
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**RAW MUSCLEBEAR**  
Aggressive, passionate bottom. 37,  
5'11", 235#, 48"c, 18"a, 28"  
thighs, 8x6. Intimidating looks w/a  
teddybear heart. Nick 415-595-7348  
(In/Out)

**VERSATILE MAN**  
24 GWM 6'Solid 190lbs 32wst  
7"cut BubbleButt Cleancut  
Masculine Affectionate IN & OUT  
**PAGE ME 415 227-7727**

Handsome masculine hung dude  
**KICKS BACK FOR YOU**  
5'11" 175 br/gr 30's 8" days ok  
Soma- Randy 864-7811 \$75/in

Hot Iris blond bottom  
23 yo slim smooth uncut  
outcalls page 415-790-2841

35, 6'2", 215# **MUSCLE TOP**  
**HANDSOME/HORNY/HAIRY/HUNG**  
**\*YNG MSCL DAD\***  
Xtremely good-looking. German-  
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**BOTTOM BOY**  
24hrs Barrie  
245-7616

**MUSCLE BOTTOM**  
**SERVING YOUR NEEDS.**  
Extremely handsome, green eyed,  
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Amazing rock hard body. 5'9", 175#  
44"c, 30"w, 16"arms, Furry chest.  
Hard, tight, butt than can handle  
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service for xtra hung. Please, serious  
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Black-vgl 6'0, 178lb swimmer bod  
Outcalls/ SF only 790-1306

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boyplaymate. Enter my web! 370-3307

I'm a tall, thin handsome boy  
with the longest, thickest meat  
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Can't fit it all down your  
throat? It's ok-nobody can.  
You're welcome to try, though.  
C'mon-I dare you.  
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**MUSCULAR SWIMMER**  
washboard abs  
cut chest  
big arms  
friendly  
respectful  
educated

actual 8"  
5'10, 160#  
\$150/hr  
excellent top

**Jeff Ryan**  
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LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS  
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS  
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BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.  
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Masculine handsome horny & hung  
buzzed head goatee tattoos & fun  
Jack 415 219-3725 - 24hrs.

27yo 5'9" 150# xxx-handsome  
**TONE, MUSCULAR BODY.**  
Passionate. Out only 540-8593

18yrs. of experience 245-2995

**ARE YOU LOOKIN' FOR  
A REAL MAN?**  
**LOOK NO FURTHER!**  
Bi, confident, masculine, hot  
stud ready for action. 31yo,  
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Hot attitude, well-built & hung  
TOP IN/OUT 415-376-4309

**POW! BANG! POP!!**  
NY start off right? Not too late  
to make it memorable! 35yo hg

**10X6 UNCUT**  
Will "get you off" to a great  
**START! SCOTT 902 7378**

Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140  
swimr bdy bbl-butt also 4bondg  
fists spankg etc. Joey 560-6353

Butt massage w/toys. Fullbody  
pleasure by boyish CMT 596-3377

**DON'T WORRY IF YOU'LL**  
Have a good time! Wonderboy Lust\*  
guaranteed. 26, blue, tight, ripped,  
with a face and personality. You won't  
forget! 415 948 5418 in/out

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AVAILABLE  
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OUT ONLY  
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6'2" 160# brn/grn firm body fun  
clean cut Russian Nick 939-9112

**BLK STRAIGHT LOOKING TOP**  
7 years on top 8 inches on the  
bottom with endurance and loves his  
job with a loyal clientele. Out only  
Cedric pgr/vm 510 639 6576

**SEXY STUDENT 22**  
Hot x-sexy gymbod student 22 &  
hung big & loads of fun 219 0726

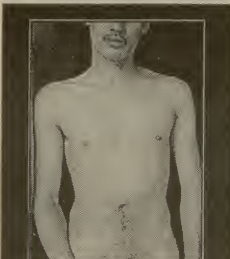
145lbs trim build/vers/friendly  
**SXY PUNK BOY**  
diff scenes/ enjoys b-ing serv'd  
hot fun/call Bobby/ out/ 251-1643



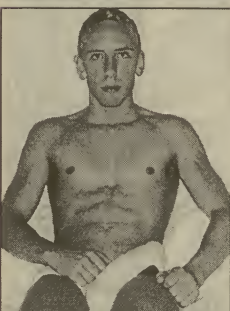
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-long, & slow- my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned  
master into all aspects &  
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Lord 431-0959



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Blond 5'10", 150 lbs  
Out Only  
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SERVING VALLEJO E.BAY  
6'2" 200# Italian 35 yrs old  
Well hung. Gives erotic, sensual  
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Brit bottom 23yo  
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Smooth sexy outcalls  
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page me 415-790-3773

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**DUTCH COLLEGE BOY**  
23yo 6'1", 160, bisexual  
athletic body bubblebutt  
blond hair blue eyes outcalls  
708-4857 (PGR)

**TEXBRED BEAR**  
READY TO SERVE NOW!!  
6ft, 270lbs, hairy, fbi plyr type  
hndsm and a nice guy \$85.00/out  
CHASE 415-820-1658!!

**HORNY & READY**  
Hot blond boy with tight bod, great  
smile and attitude. Available for discreet  
sessions, mild or wild, uninhibited, open  
minded, showoff. Barrie 245-7616

R U tired of calling up ads &  
these guys r nothing they claim  
2 B? If so then pay att. to this:

**100%REAL!NO BULLSHIT**  
**OR DON'T PAY 5'10" 160,**  
**9.5X7 ROUND CUT**

Toned fit body, tan! See my review @  
www.male4malescorts.com. I'm 24hrs.  
I am fun, adventuresome, outgoing,  
& yes, I have class 510 219 9028 Shane

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- Live Talk
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  - Voice Mail
- 24 Hours  
\$2.00  
976-7500

**Free**  
(415) 981-8123

Meet MEN Right Now!

**MRN**

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Preview each guy before you  
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Try it for

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**7c POWER STROKE**  
"within your reach"  
**1-206-888-0078**  
18+ LD toll to Seattle may apply  
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**MALE CALL**  
"you get the picture"  
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18+ LOW LD TOLL

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626-8255  
TALK\*SEX\*PERSONALS  
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## WANTED:PRO TOP

Successful business executive seeks  
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appearing with social graces in public  
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no drugs. Luxury lifestyle for serious,  
solid, stable only. Send application  
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27701-214, Houston TX 77227-  
77001

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Hot, Live, All Male Chat. **10¢** min. Call 1-900-505-2324 to get your \$5 membership then call your local number & chat live with local hot men for only .10/min. 18+

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**Browse, match, chat!**  
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Bear lookin' fer party bottoms of yer  
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FDA Approved vacuum pumps/surgical,  
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SF Neg Top, 45, needs horny younger  
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Couch Surfers fold out avail in Bel-  
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Top Only. From nice 5'10" 150 Lbs  
Sexy. (415) 863-1954. Carlos

Vallejo GAM lks kissing/sucking  
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To sell, lotions, lubricants &  
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Bad Boys Spanked over  
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Rm/brd 4 hot, lean hseboy8/stud;  
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Call Days 707-823-3895

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WM, well bld, 8", nds well bld men  
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UH-oh, spank you! (510) 654-1122

WM, well bld, 8", nds well bld men  
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MEET SEXY SINGLES

Connect with local singles TONIGHT  
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**CALL 415-247-2000**

Use Access Code 4858

Bear lookin' fer party bottoms of yer  
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Thikdikdad seeks rite tite butt:  
Rm/brd 4 hot, lean hseboy8/stud;  
Affect/discip. 24Hr 510-548-0842









# Community

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GAY.COM